Daily Report

Latin America

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Group of Eight Holds Meeting in Acapulco

De la Madrid Speech

PA281905 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1601 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Speech by Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado during the opening ceremony of the Group of Eight meeting at the Juan Luis de Alarcon Theater at the Convention Center in Acapulco—live]

[Text] Your excellencies Presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela; ladies and gentlemen:

In the name of the people and Government of Mexico, I fraternally and cordially welcome you. Your visit honors our country and delights my fellow citizens. This meeting of Latin American leaders is an unparalleled political event in this area's modern history. Today, eight countries from Latin America proclaim their historical unity and their collective destiny and affirm their solidarity to face the present and future.

Since their independence our countries have had to face endless challenges that have sometimes strengthened them and other times defeated them. The need to maintain sovereignty and development, self-determination and mutual respect, and democracy and security is the challenge that is characteristic of Latin America.

Our people have worked hard to improve their living conditions and have continuously struggled to maintain their independence, autonomy, and dignity. However, Latin Americans have achieved industrial and technological development late, and have had a rough time constructing democratic institutions [words indistinct] those who have seen these as symptoms of incapacity and contradictions. Separate we are fragile; united we have unequaled strength. This is the great lesson and timeless message from our forefathers—chiefly Simon Bolivar, a people's general and founder of Latin America.

Today's Latin Americans must overcome the obstacles that have prevented unity on the continent from the Rio Grande to Patagonia. Our integration becomes more urgent every day. So is the need to abandon a mistaken competition and the unpostponable need to join our economies and use the work and creative imagination of 400 million people. Let us transform our old ideals into pragmatic and effective action.

Messrs Presidents, were it not for recent circumstances it would have been impossible to even think of a diplomatic and political process that has brought us to this extraordinary event. I refer first to the advances in democracy in Latin America during the last 10 years and which have eased dialogue and led to concerted actions. We, as chiefs of state, have received the unmistaken mandate to encourage society's political modernization, strengthen its democratic institutions, and promote the organized participation of the community in government activities, in the broadest sense. All of you presidents have been political participants in and privileged witnesses of the new Latin American democracy. The world recognizes this.

In addition, I wish to pay special homage to our people who have really been the ones to make this meeting possible. It is the people who have untiredly fought for democracy and unity. It is they who have resisted authoritarianism and tyranny and who have paid the price with their lives and blood for a de jure order that assures us national sovereignty and individual and social rights.

I now pay my most fervent homage to this people who are dedicated, untiring, creative, and who hunger for freedom.

Latin America's current situation has bitter roots, including disregard of our countries' sovereign rights and the threat of war between brothers, which would not allow any well-being. Open intervention would deepen Latin America's wounds and make respectful life together difficult. The serious economic situations that we are experiencing, especially the foreign debt and its service, are just a few of the things that have stimulated our conscience, which we must transform into an expression of our solidarity.

One of the most serious problems we face is international economic relations, with present circumstances unfavorable to us. Prosperity and the technological revolution benefit only the richest and are not likely to be enjoyed by the usual unfortunates. This is the reason for our permanent demand for dialogue to promote understanding between the industrialized and developing countries. This area needs substantial change.

Worldwide stability and security demand an adequate balance between rich and poor countries, between countries with vast potential and others that seem unviable and condemned to stagnation. Without this balance within and outside the various countries—as history has shown—harmony among nations becomes tenuous and the hopes of all countries are dashed.

The fact is that because of an impressive change in the production system—at a time when rhetoric is more common than freedom of trade—the protectionism of the most powerful countries devours the developing economies and nullifies future efforts. If the prices of the raw materials we export drop, and at the same time severe financial restrictions are imposed on us, it will be impossible to break the vicious circle of stagnation and achieve our desired modernization. In addition to this, Latin America bears the heavy burden of a foreign debt that forces us to send our resources abroad, at a high social and moral cost for our countries. As long as

mutual responsibility and political negotiation are not fully accepted, with the participation of all the countries involved, there will be no satisfactory solution.

Today we can no longer delay adjusting the service of the debt to the payment capacity and the growth needs of Latin America. We do not ignore our international commitments, but our first duty is with the present and future well-being of each of our peoples.

Messrs Presidents, peace and the full observation of international law, of course, are essential requirements for Latin American development. The efforts the eight governments have undertaken in Central America show our conviction that only through political and diplomatic agreements will we eliminate confrontation and war. Ours is an unwavering commitment to safeguard national sovereignties and the unrestricted implementation of the principle of self-determination. We have said on innumerable occasions that only the political will of the countries involved can silence the weapons in the region. Thus, we are pleased that the Esquipulas agreement, agreed to by the five Central American presidents on 7 August, has clearly expressed support for peace. We have also demanded a positive contribution from the countries that influence the region. I reiterate that the time for intervention and the use of force is behind us. It is more difficult, politically speaking, to find genuine security in the participation of all than it is to fall prey to the illusion of our invulnerability as a result of statements and accusations.

In response to Latin America's problems and the complex issue of development we must join our strengths and abilities to promote greater unity and integration. This is the purpose of our initiative: not to exclude but to add, not to subtract but to multiply. I think everyone would like to believe that our method is a long-range one and not one that has already served its purpose.

Mexico is fulfilling its historic responsibility of contributing to this objective. My government has stated the need for an authentic community of Latin American nations, integrated politically and economically. We know this is a long-range goal that can only be fulfilled gradually, and that it requires a strong, unbroken political will. In today's interdependent world Latin America is forced to be more global. It is undeniable that the future depends equally on peace, international security, and the establishment of a new political dialogue with other countries and regions.

On our current agenda, the consolidation of democratic institutions, the promotion of human rights and basic freedoms, the recovery of our economies' capacity for growth, scientific and technological development, the promotion of the people's education, and the encouragement of creative activity are important tasks that we cannot ignore without hindering hopes and expectations. All in all, it is a matter of guiding political will toward an ultimate goal: the well-being of our societies.

The Latin American countries have been taking various steps for integration for some time. Undoubtedly the most significant one was the creation of the mechanism for political consultation and agreement, a mechanism that as a result of hard technical work has allowed this unprecedented meeting to take place.

Meetings of the eight chiefs of state should take place periodically. There is no doubt that regular meetings will strengthen the unity process, increase the region's negotiation capabilities, and encourage new actions for political, economic, and cultural development.

Meetings such as this, at the highest political level, will also allow the systematic analysis of Latin America's structural problems, our links with the world economy, the challenges of technological transformations, and the uncertain future that the 21st century represents for us.

We must take advantage of the rich experience gained by existing regional organizations without duplicating them or creating a new administrative apparatus. This is why we have proposed strengthening the Latin American Economic System and the Latin American Integration Association, as well as other formal and informal regional groups, by reviewing their functions and increasing their efficiency.

We want to underline the particular importance of the Latin American parliament as a forum for free political expression that will promote democracy and the Latin America integration process.

Messrs Presidents, our countries, which have extraordinary human and natural resources, must be mobilized for our common benefit. The production system, professional and technical training, vital market-securing capabilities, and the basic homogeneity of our societies are powerful reasons that encourage more consistent regional cooperation.

The formidable link of a common and original culture—a model for creative capabilities and imagination—is a social factor for integration. The Latin American culture to which the people and our best men have been contributing for several centuries, which is based on ethical values and which serves political commitments, is also, and at the same time, the goal of the plan that has brought us together.

Political will and clear needs are a combination that will move us closer to the goals we have set for ourselves.

We will face the challenges of the future with this certainty and with the support, talent, and determination of the Latin American people.

We are not seeking spectacular results at this meeting. Our hope is to start a new phase of the integration of Latin America. Our nations are not prostrate and are not resigning themselves to enduring our current difficulties

to the death. Let us face our challenges with vigor, as our people demand. Let us face them united, trusting that the vitality that our solidarity gives us will enable us to strengthen our sovereignty and continue the construction of free, democratic, and fair societies.

Welcome, Messrs Latin American presidents. This is your home. [applause]

Alfonsin Speech

PA290200 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1620 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Speech by Argentine President Raul Alfonsin during the opening ceremony of the Group of Eight meeting at the Juan Luis de Alarcon Theater at the Convention Center in Acapulco—live]

[Text] Messrs Presidents, Ministers, and delegates, ladies and gentlemen:

It was with great excitement that we heard in this room President de la Madrid's speech. It also was heard by millions of Argentines, [words indistinct] and Americans. In the most remote points of our vast country they probably stopped for a moment to follow with excitement this message of hope and, especially, of calls for a future of unity among all the sister Latin American nations.

We say this excitement because we have the feeling this is not just another day. This is the beginning of a march whose path will deeply mark our children's lives. This is a march that 150 years ago was the passionate political goal of our nations' founders. This is a march we are now making with modesty, realism, and firm determination.

We are here to begin together, right now, a task we clearly and firmly see. We have not come here to go back to our countries with a rhetorical message. On the contrary, as legitimate representatives of our people we have the mandate to work.

Eight Latin American presidents are meeting for the first time in history on our own initiative to work on a political process that should efficiently serve the goal of unity that brought us here. We will work on a political plan that should ensure for our nations the democracy we have recovered, that should allow us to consolidate peace, and that should make possible the growth of our societies in freedom, with justice, and with independence.

Our people demand from us imagination, efforts, and results. They want to see their work turning into well-being and security, not vanishing while they helplessly watch in frustration.

I believe I speak for our nations' men and women when I say they expect from us—who after all are simply the results of their desires—few words and much work.

For the Argentine people, this meeting of eight presidents implies—simply by taking place—a political message of great importance. It means the Latin American people have gained awareness of their identity, their potential, and their unacceptable incapability to participate in important international decisions.

Messrs Presidents, Latin America knows it is part of the West, but it also knows it belongs to the South, which is economically and politically underdeveloped. From here we can see that an unequal and unequitable distribution of wealth and industrial, scientific, and technological development is taking place.

For this reason it is necessary that the Western nations realize and understand how current economic conditions impede our development and condemn us to backwardness.

The foreign debt issue and the fall of the prices of most of our products are two clear examples of this situation. We cannot accept paying for the lack of stability in the North. The freedom that has been recovered has no room for that. While we reiterate our will to act responsibly and to negotiate, it must also be absolutely clear that our first and undeniable responsibility is to our people's well-being and freedom. We have done all we could and should do. The South must no longer be solely responsible for the international system.

Messrs Presidents, all of us have been wondering what Latin America will be like in the next century. We are troubled by the thought that the region might be in the same state it is in today. Ours is a land of progress and freedom that, however, is immersed in the anguish of underdevelopment and instability. I refuse to accept that this will always be our destiny. I am convinced that we can change our fate and that the instruments, policies, and decisions that can lead to a great change in the region are at hand. To achieve this objective, however, we must not resort to conventional methods. The policies that can produce qualitative changes in the region are not traditional; they are not in black and white, and undoubtedly they will require audacity. These will be new policies, except for one thing: dignity is required. I am convinced the continent's independent future will depend on the efficiency and seriousness of our efforts to achieve our integration. In the same manner as it was necessary to give up a sophisticated ideological debate in order to struggle united against totalitarianism and to achieve democracy within our societies, the same method is applicable here: We must be united in essential matters. We will pave the way to unity as gradually and realistically as necessary, but we will do it. We are doing it today, right here. Other regions, particularly in the developed world, today enjoy the benefits of what regional integration meant for each country. As for us, we are willing to generate the conditions that will make possible a broad regional integration. Of course, we will need a large regional market that will take advantage and make the best use of our respective national capabilities.

We believe it can be done because there is political willingness—there are already subregional processes underway. We have the population and the natural resources that such an endeavor requires, and we also have a respectable industrial development, as well as scientific and technological capabilities.

Our integration will also contribute to reinforcing our autonomous decisionmaking, not by isolating ourselves from the world but by incorporating ourselves into that world as a new group of countries with certain united policies. We firmly believe that is the path toward a different life for our future generations. The world's society is heading in that direction, and we cannot ignore that fact any longer.

We are beginning a new journey today. However, I should point out that for that journey we need more than the fundamental political determination we are expressing here. It will be necessary and essential that together, acting in consultation and in permanent harmony, we preserve certain values and principles that will determine to a large extent the progress of our historic task. We need to consolidate and expand democracy with the social justice it entails. We must maintain and consolidate regional peace. We must strengthen our spirit of solidarity in the face of external challenges. Together we will defend our democracies. However, it must be clear that simply defending the lofty value of freedom will not fulfill our peoples' hopes; it must be accompanied by progressive well-being for all. We will defend peace and security in Latin America, but it is necessary that there not be any interference in problems of the region. Latin America must not be turned into the stage of the conflicts that are alien to Latin America. We are convinced we Latin Americans have the willingness, the means, and the necessary political potential—acting together—to preserve peace in the region.

Messrs Presidents, Argentina hopes for a future of unity with all the Latin American democratic countries. We are aware of the profound fraternal identity uniting us with the other peoples in the region. We want to work together for the same ideals we fought for 2 and 1/2 centuries ago. We all need to win for ourselves the space and presence in the world the region demands. I am convinced this historic task depends mainly on our own determination. Thank you.

Sarney Speech

PA290437 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1632 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Speech by Brazilian President Jose Sarney during the opening ceremony of the Group of Eight meeting at the Juan Luis de Alarcon Theater at the Convention Center in Acapulco—live]

[Text] Messrs Presidents, Ministers, delegates:

It is with great pleasure that as president of Brazil, I see my country integrated into a deep analysis of Latin American problems that gather us here today in Acapulco, a city of great hospitality, (?joy), and democratic process.

New winds are blowing on our continent: The winds of independence and of autonomy that will lead us to freely conduct our foreign policies without the chains of the large powers and without the restrictions of local political bosses. This event is a historic one. For the first time we meet at the call of [words indistinct]. We are going to discuss the fate of an important part of the world, our (?potential), our hopes, and the gap separating us. We are going to identify the causes for our backwardness and our frustrations.

We are experiencing difficult times; these are times of crisis. The [words indistinct] of Latin America continues while [words indistinct]. How can one explain a constant and crushing poverty in the midst of such an extraordinary abundance of potential resources? We realize backwardness and dependency prevail on the continent, and this continues to be a challenge to our political and intellectual leaders' talents and capabilities.

We are very far from answering our peoples' legitimate expectations. Despite all the progress made in various areas, it is terrible that today we are in a worse situation than at the start of the century. At the end of World War II nearly all the Latin American countries had per capita incomes much higher than South Korea and (?Taiwan). Some were even higher than [name indistinct], Portugal, and Turkey. Up to 1960 the Latin American countries were as advanced or more advanced than Japan.

The countries with which we could be favorably compared just a few years ago now have outstanding growth rates. Latin America, however, has regressed. The average per capita income of the region now barely exceeds what it was in 1975. Each one of us can attest to the burdening situation of our [words indistinct] and to the ill effects of an international situation to whose creation we have not contributed, although it harms us.

Latin America has become an exporter of capital. We are forced to pay adjustments that the developed countries impose on us to benefit their own economies. We do not seek to blame others. We have given repeated demonstrations of maturity and balance by honoring the commitments we made, which we do not ignore. However, it is necessary that the region's current situation be faced [words indistinct] as a whole, bearing in mind its political, economic, and financial aspects [words indistinct].

Latin America needs to grow. This is demanded by history. No democratic ruler can rejoice over this fact. We are here to reaffirm we [words indistinct].

We must strive with determination to fully participate in making important international decisions on political and security issues. To face this challenge appropriately it is necessary that we work together to create the necessary conditions so our political desires result in concrete, fundamental changes for our region. Let us seek common solutions to common problems. Our societies share a common history. We are pluralistic, tolerant, and open to talks. We value what is ours and what is authentically Latin American without rejecting what comes from abroad. We are a mixture of many cultures and peoples. We are the result of the oldest traditions. [Words indistinct] can do together.

The firm support for the initiative to declare the south Atlantic an area of peace and cooperation is a symbol of the spirit of peace and harmony in our region. This is a cause of all Latin America. It is a cause that unites us with our sister countries of the African Continent.

The enriched experiences received through the Contadora and Support Groups have helped us to create permanent means of discussing political coordination. Within that same spirit, the five Central American presidents signed the historic Esquipulas II agreements.

Messrs Presidents, Latin America cannot be a territory for conflict. We cannot be the instruments of ploys. Latin America cannot be devoured by its inability to handle inflation, which exists in our economies. Latin America cannot be a reserve market for developed technology or a region condemned to scientific and cultural colonization. The world will be divided between those who will produce technology and those who will consume it.

If we are able to unite, should we be able to implement efficient mechanisms for cooperation on scientific and technological research and production we would have the possibility of resolving ourselves the growing and complex problems that characterize contemporary society. It must be this way; otherwise we would have to accept dependency and backwardness.

Latin America cannot be a land of rhetoric, pessimism, pity, impossible revolutions, revolt, censorship, and sadness. Latin America must be aware of its potential and of its role in the future. Where is this road? It lies in integration, in joint economies, in the overcoming of local conflicts, and in unity.

Brazil joins this effort. Brazil extends its arms to its brothers and wants to grow with them. We are entitled to make progress. We will all make progress without discrimination and without historical or ideological grievances. We must call on all Latin American nations to establish fraternal relations. We must no longer rely on foreign aid to save us. Industrialized nations have no political commitment to help Latin America out of its tragic underdevelopment. We must do it ourselves.

The foreign debt, neglect, low prices of raw materials, interest rates, sanctions, and retaliations show us that we must not build up our hopes. We must be aware of the realities of our times. Everything points to the way. History brought us to this responsibility: integration and cooperation.

This is a historic meeting. It is a first meeting. We are moving toward a common market, with realism to prevent frustrations. Let us firmly defend our wealth and our interests. We must work for unity. If we are able to plant these seeds the future will be ours. May this be the slogan of our meeting: To flee from words and to unleash actions.

I will end with a verse written by Octavio Paz: The transfiguration of words creates the miracle of poetry. Make your appearance, help me to exist. Help yourself to exist. If you feel nonexistent, that proves you exist. You are my premonition now, the dreams of my dreams, an invisible ghost, come fly, wake up, overcome your steep obstacles. Thank you very much. [applause]

Barco Speech

PA292155 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1648 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Speech by Colombian President Virgilio Barco Vargas during the opening ceremony of the Group of Eight meeting at the Juan Luis de Alarcon Theater at the Convention Center in Acapulco—live]

[Text] Messrs Presidents, Ministers, delegates, ladies and gentlemen:

The presidents from eight Latin American nations are meeting here to analyze topics of common interest. This is a historic meeting; it is the beginning of a new phase in formulating our foreign policy. This permanent instrument for political agreement is the result of the struggle for cooperation that our peoples have desired for so many years. It is the result of the dialogue and daily meetings, of the continuous effort to resolve disagreements and promote understanding for peace and progress in America.

The respect for the principle of democracy, in its political, social, and economic aspects, and the principle of nonintervention in the internal or foreign relations of states is the common denominator of this plan for negotiation. One way or another, Latin American and Caribbean countries are facing the overwhelming burden of the foreign debt, which has become the main cause of concern and anguish. Our countries are annoyed because of the instability of interest rates, which forces us to spend more on servicing the debt, thus forcing the abandonment of carefully planned projects. To further complicate matters, our basic exports, sometimes our sole source of income, are harshly affected by the drop in prices on international markets and by preferential practices and tariffs that discourage or disallow exports.

All this hastens and generates social and economic problems that in a crisis are used by those who seek to replace stability with chaos, democracy with dictatorship, and freedom with totalitarianism.

The necessary, harmonious, and friendly relations among industrial and Latin American countries should not affect our autonomy or limit our legitimate desire to steadily build more just and egalitarian societies.

The time has come to review our plans for growth. The fulfillment of social objectives, characteristic of our democratic systems, cannot be delayed or become secondary objectives. The absence of social spending investments has caused another dimension of the debt problem: what I call the social debt with our peoples since it is necessary to pay the debt as soon as possible at the risk of witnessing—amidst the chaos and disorder—the end of the extraordinary effort we have made to consolidate peace and democracy on our continent.

This is the debt our government wants to pay despite all the difficulties. We are not willing to make any concessions on this issue. We cannot ignore the urgent need for social changes in our countries. This is our commitment. We must struggle for social progress. We are obliged to point out to developed nations the urgent need to change the techniques and conditions for trade, financing, and technical assistance in order to achieve more equitable treatment for all our states. Limiting poverty not only benefits those who overcome this difficult condition, but it also benefits all members of a society capable of incorporating those who overcome poverty as active, useful members. At the same time the harmonious development of Latin American countries will guarantee the stability, peace, and security of the entire continent.

Faithful compliance with treaties and the peaceful resolution of conflicts in accordance with international law is the way that Colombia conducts its international relations. Our strength is that we are not a threat to anyone. Therefore, we once again express our firm rejection of the arms buildup and the use of force to resolve conflicts. We cannot allocate indispensable resources to purchase weapons to wage wars. We are also waging a battle against the drug trafficking that wickedly becomes cowardly terrorism. No state has paid such a high price as Colombia in this struggle. However, without decisive and joint actions from the great producers and the industrialized consumer countries it would be impossible to move ahead in this heroic enterprise.

Dear Presidents and friends, this meeting takes a message of Americanist solidarity to our fellow citizens and the entire world. It is the expression of a new principle: negotiating to achieve progress. From this noble Mexican land we Colombians, firmly determined to develop our fatherland, and with an unswerving commitment to freedom and justice, want to express to the Argentine, Brazilian, Mexican, Panamanian, Peruvian, Uruguayan, and Venezuelan peoples, and to all Latin American peoples, our affectionate and fraternal support.

Colombia's democratic tradition is based on respect for human rights, love of peace, respect for the autonomy of states, and dedication to the principles of international law. Colombia's commitment to the social and economic improvement of the underdeveloped is a sound base for the desired cooperation and solidarity among nations destined to build a promising future together. Thank you very much. [applause]

Delvalle Speech

PA272047 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1659 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Speech by Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle during the opening ceremony of the Group of Eight meeting at the Juan Luis de Alarcon Theater at the Convention Center in Acapulco—live]

[Text] Your Excellency Miguel de la Madrid, president of the United States of Mexico, Your Excellencies Messrs Presidents, Your Excellencies Ministers of State, distinguished delegations that accompany us, ladies and gentlemen:

This meeting, which gathers the heads of state of the countries belonging to the permanent mechanism for consultation and political agreement and representing over 80 percent of Latin America's population, places us on the threshold of a new historic event which must be used to structure a specific program of action based on a realistic view of the chief problems affecting our people and which constitutes a firm joint pledge to achieve creative solutions which may strengthen the economic, political, and social independence of Latin America. If the name Contadora Island evokes the Panamanian land and internationally symbolizes the efforts undertaken by our nations to achieve peace in Central America—a peace that seems closer at hand than ever—the name Acapulco, pearl of the Mexican Pacific coast, must be identified tomorrow as a starting point for a new Latin American awakening of the current situation and as the fortunate beginning of effective realizations that were achieved through the open and sincere cooperation among our nations to remove the obstacles keeping us from moving ahead in the endeavors for development and growth, which our peoples are legitimately claiming.

The huge foreign debt, which excessively weighs down on the Latin American peoples and essentially prevents their development efforts, is arbitrarily handled by those who sometimes use this situation to subjugate us instead of to provide our peoples with the means to overcome their stagnation and thus march with dignity on the path of a true evolution programmed on bases they can implement and with obligations they can keep. It is unacceptable that strong and rich nations demand weak

and poor ones to implement political democracy, while they practice economic tyranny on the latter to the point of suffocating them in the despair of the absence of a promising future.

Without entering into the details of the causes of the excessive growth of Latin America's foreign debt and the reasons that have turned it into an instrument against democracy and development of the peoples of the area, there is no doubt that all the region's nations expect us—the presidents of the eight countries meeting here—to take stands that reflect a new approach on this vital and crucial problem, which represents a new hope for the improvement and betterment of our majorities.

Foreign credit is no longer a source of resources destined to finance social and economic growth, and has become a subtle instrument for political manipulation which goes against the current of banking practices. Our concerns have gone from the fundamental program of development to a daily concern over the terms and expiration of loans already used. In this respect our attention is centered on the past. We have relegated our future—as well as the development of our peoples which should be our chief objective—to second place.

For that reason, Panama urges you to look at the future and to consider the foreign debt in a manner that does not give it preference over our development. The industrialized nations must recognize that Latin America represents an important market for their export products. Our nations annually purchase $55 billion worth of the industrialized nations' foreign trade.

The clear interdependence between developed and developing countries shows that no process of negotiation and adjustment of the foreign debt should be introduced as a position that will destroy the international economic system. It must also be kept in mind that a solution made exclusively at the expense of the developing countries would be unacceptable and, consequently, would drive us to more radical solutions which would just as strongly affect the creditor nations. Therefore, we must find an intelligent and adequate solution to a problem deeply affecting us.

Before mentioning possible suggestions on the foreign debt, we must consider the economic environment around which our development must be directed. My government is convinced of the advantages of the free market system. Our economies, foreign trade, and the efficient allocation of our resources must develop under these guidelines.

Hence, we must reject the industrialized countries' protectionist policies and sell our products to all nations, without any restrictions. This economic framework is not only applicable to goods and services. It should also include the international capital market.

Repaying the debt, which is being computed based on the debt's nominal balance instead of on its current market value, represents for our countries an excessive payment and thus unjustly favors our creditors. It entails losing resources that otherwise could be used to finance necessary development plans, and therefore our past debt limits our future well-being. We are convinced the debt must be handled equitably among the parties involved, including both the credit institutions and the debtor countries. Until now the debt issue has been handled though negotiations between each country and its creditors, even though we have considered the possibility of negotiating as a single Latin American bloc.

In addition, our domestic discussions have been characterized by unimaginative but heated debates between technocrats and politicians, which have not produced an effective solution to the debt crisis. It is necessary to find a balance between technical and political solutions. Consequently, this presidential summit must assume an economically feasible and politically viable stance. We must then acknowledge that the desire to negotiate the debt through a Latin American bloc will take time, which Latin America cannot spare.

Panama therefore proposes that our eight countries agree on financial principles and that we invite the other Latin American countries to join that agreement to establish the framework within which each country will individually negotiate its debt. Panama proposes the following financial principles: establishing debt payments based on the debt's market value; demanding the refinancing of debts to international credit institutions; demanding the same treatment for all countries as given to the country receiving the best terms; and establishing different criteria and financial methods for existing and new debts.

Latin America has already made its share of sacrifices in preserving the international economic and financial system, and we expect a similar reciprocal action from the industrialized countries, which also benefit from the system.

Today we are facing a new aggressor that disguises its political attacks in a subtle and sophisticated manner: economic pressure. All Latin American countries at one time or another, to a greater or lesser degree, have been affected by such actions. My country, Panama, is currently facing those attacks. In addition to the problems derived from its foreign debt, Panama is facing political and economic attacks from U.S. reactionary sectors who found and encouraged domestic groups that saw in this an opportunity to satisfy their political aspirations. All this is done through an intensive campaign of lies. That destabilization campaign began 5 months ago, precisely when Panama was experiencing a sustained economic recovery and social harmony that encouraged foreign investments and the expansion of our international banking system. Domestic and foreign seditious actions were reported by Panamanian and U.S. media, as well as by official U.S. sources, inciting civil insurrection to

overthrow the legitimate government. The blatant disrespect for the authorities and violent actions carried out for several weeks even endangered lives and personal property, which compelled my government to adopt the measures established in the Constitution and laws to restore public order and normal conditions.

I must state here with strong indignation and deep concern that authorized U.S. Government and Senate spokesmen have contributed to the origin and continuation of the Panamanian crisis with interventionist actions that openly violate the UN Charter, which sets forth the principle of sovereign equality of its members and the express prohibition of resorting to threats against the political independence of any state.

The U.S. Senate's recent resolution, which absurdly seeks to impose economic sanctions on Panama, is an action that should be repudiated by all nations in the world, particularly at this time in our history when peoples firmly and vigorously reject any imperialist vestige that goes against their triumph, desires of liberation, and their self-determination to forge their own destinies.

Are not these U.S. pressures clear violations of the fundamental tenets of the UN Charter? Are not these pressures clear violations of human rights? Are not all these pressures flagrant violations of the essential basis of the democracy so cheerfully proclaimed by the United States itself?

All Latin American countries must stand up and repudiate any attempt from any country—no matter how big—to attack economically or in any other way one of our countries in such a way that its institutional or economic stability or the nation's and citizens' independence and existence are endangered. Neither history nor the heroes of our struggle for freedom would forgive the breach of conduct that continental indifference would imply in a case such as the one presented here.

We are beginning a new phase that brings us closer to Bolivar's dream. Here, in the land of Morelos, Hidalgo, and Juarez, eight sister Latin American countries discuss like sisters the problems of peace and war.

Panama already has a tradition behind these continental efforts. It has hosted hemispheric meetings on two occasions. In 1821 it was the site of the Amphictyonic Congress called by Bolivar, and in 1955 it hosted the meeting of the hemispheric presidents. For this reason, I accepted with pleasure the suggestion of His Excellency Dr Alan Garcia Perez, president of Peru, to hold a summit meeting of Latin American presidents in my country, and I hereby, in the name of the Panamanian people and government, am pleased to reiterate that acceptance.

We all have a great responsibility to our peoples' present and future. Let us firmly make the decision to fulfill that responsibility as historic circumstances so require, using our best efforts and greatest capabilities to find the desired brilliant future. Thank you very much. [applause]

Garcia Speech

PA272307 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1714 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Speech by Peruvian President Alan Garcia Perez during the opening ceremony of the Group of Eight meeting at the Juan Luis de Alarcon Threater at the Convention Center in Acapulco—live]

[Text] Fellow countrymen:

Our meeting here in this revolutionary and mestizo land is a decisive step in Latin American historical maturity. We are not here to do more or less than what we are willing to do. Those of us who believe in sovereignty and justice are here because Latin American unity is the greatest cause and deepest revolution. In the face of the challenge of the upcoming 21st century and the anxious hopes of the Latin American youths, we know the time has come to take action so our peoples will live without any domination.

In our countries democracy will be short-lived, development will be temporary, and justice will be unattainable as long as we continue closing our borders to history, as we have been doing up to now. As long as we Latin Americans continue to take actions divided, we will continue to suffer the consequences of orders and commands from those who benefit from injustice, and our peoples will continue to live burdened by the debt and affected by the division.

That is why no one but us has the responsibility for what happens to our peoples. Anything else is just for the sake of argument. When we wonder why Latin American democracy is unstable, poor, and temporary, some reply that this is due to a lack of political culture on the continent. However, this is an unacceptable colonial answer. Others say this is because there is a lack of justice, but this is only part of the truth. The minority groups that economically dominate us actually follow foreign orders. It is also said democracy is weak and unstable because there is too much international domination and because Latin America is suffering from a great dependency. But why does Latin America suffer from that dependency and domination?

It is suffering because it is divided. It is suffering because we are isolated and separated, and no one but us can be blamed for what Latin America is suffering. The annual interest on the foreign debt costs much more than our annual efforts for increasing production and for well-being and much more than the austerity measures we impose on our peoples. The lower prices for our raw

materials and the obstacles placed on our exports in the international markets cost much more. There is no country that can successfully answer these problems alone, no matter how great, how industrialized, or how important the country may be. No country alone will be able to find a complete answer. We must then conclude here that no one can be blamed but us, and particularly those of us who rule Latin America.

Democracy must be bread and freedom, but we will not find in between our narrow borders the great market required for constant technological development. We also will not find the strength we need for breaking the shackles of the debt. Only a united Latin America will be the natural stage for democracy and for an increasing economic development.

We did not learn this during the harsh 1929 crisis. At that time, when raw material prices dropped, each one of our countries made the mistake of trying to build its own industry and market without taking into consideration how narrow those markets were and that by importing machinery it was becoming more dependent. Today we see this clearly, but we must wonder if now—in the 1987 crisis—we will forget the 1929 lesson. Will we again try—each one—to negotiate separately? We wonder if we will try to make a leap into technological development that will be a fatal step if each one of us tries to do it individually and if we do not understand what was said here to the effect that some day there would be a large gap between the producers and consumers of technology. This can only be prevented by Latin American unity, which would create a great market for technology and would offer a great potential for production.

If we did not learn the lesson in 1929, then our reply in 1987 can only be one: We must achieve political and econonomic unity on our continent. It is clear now that the gap between rich and poor countries leaves the rich countries without a market or a destination for their enormous riches and technology, so they struggle among themselves, implementing protectionism, raising their interest rates, changing their exchange rates, and orienting their economies to military spending and speculation. This economic disorder, which has become a crisis, can only bring us more poverty if we do not unite to convince the rich countries to participate in a dialogue. However, we must not convince them by begging or continuously repeating the same arguments. We should do it with specific actions. We clearly stated this morning that now is the time to act, not talk—and we must act quickly. However, we must not act hastily; we must do it in a responsible way, because this concerns our future.

Consequently, now is the time to act without hesitation or fear. There is a certain truth about our current crisis: We certainly need the rich countries' capital and technology. However, there is a deeper and much more important truth about our current crisis: The rich countries also need us. They urgently need us as a market for their capital, already swollen by the extremely high interest rates. They need our America as a destination for their technology, and they need us so they can grow and also to rebuild the international system on a more just basis.

They are not aware of that truth, of this interdependence, which was also mentioned this morning. They would like to continue fighting, rich against rich, increasing their interest rates and lowering their exchange rates, but that would only lead them to greater disorder and would irresponsibly drag us into that disorder. That is why it is time Latin America not only defended itself from the crisis but that it called the world's and the industrialized countries' attention to the need to rebuild the international economic system and to abolish the monetary dictatorship of the dollar, which has been imposed on us for more than 40 years.

They need us now more than ever. That is a truth that sooner or later will take hold. Its evidence should strengthen our courage to act. When we individually renegotiate our debt and when we ask for financing, we are disdainfully threatened; we are reminded that we need those credits and capital and that we must receive them under any conditions. Economic policies are imposed on us and efforts are made to rule us from abroad. It is true we need that capital, but that is only part of the current truth. That is the colonial view of the truth. It is the view that tells us that we depend on them but that they do not depend on us. In light of the present crisis, however, we know that sooner or later that capital will have to come, but without compromising our freedom, our sovereignty, and our right not to sacrifice our peoples to the appetite of the banks, which are only concerned about numbers. That is why we must know how to wait. However, we must act while waiting. We must not wait with the inaction and passivity of those who wait for things to happen on their own.

We must act to create new situations. We must be aware that the international economy today is experiencing its most serious crisis. The interest rates that increase capital paradoxically bring into confrontation and at the same time unite those countries that need capital—even though they cannot pay it back—with those countries that need to loan capital to someone, regardless of the fact that it will not be repaid. That is today's secret: to know how to negotiate and act without hesitation.

Let us take the example of the foreign debt, which is at the core of our problems, but which is also the moving force behind Latin American unity. The foreign debt is only the expression of unproductive capital, of capital that is not invested to create material wealth, and of capital that rotates around itself in a type of fetishism of liquidity and unproductive business.

It is a capital that receives our peoples' poverty as interest. In each of our countries people know the foreign debt determines their wages, food prices, and their government's social expenses. In all of our countries the

annual growth of the debt surpasses economic growth for the same period by far. That situation makes the foreign debt unpayable under the conditions imposed by international banks and much more so under the economic policy they request as a guarantee. However, there is another circumstance: fear has ended, the myth is dying, and the untouchables are disappearing from the scene. Several countries have limited, in a de facto or a de jure manner, the amount of their payments, and nothing has happened. Therefore, we can go into the unknown land we have feared so much. The threats are thus just paper in this interdependence whose secret we must investigate and uncover.

The creditors are thus the ones who have the problem now. We know there is great injustice because of the debt, of the low price paid for our work, and of the wealthier countries' unilateral increase in interest rates. However, we are always told that we need more capital and that if we do not surrender to the creditors' rules we will not get loans. However, behind that apparent arrogance there is an enormous weakness: the intrinsic weakness of international capital.

Nothing will be achieved through petitions and negotiations as long as we do not make the market of force realize the strength of our will. Only if we make a decision such as the one demanded now will we show our will, and only those who have will are true citizens of the world. Our will is not a unilateral fact. Is it a unilateral fact that freely elected presidents make a decision? Our will is a collective and necessary matter to change the course of irrationality. Our will is a creed of survival; it is the right to our people's existence and our legitimacy as free nations. We must therefore act with different goals, perhaps, but as a single unity.

To act jointly does not mean to adopt the same method or procedure. To act jointly means to make a decision to act once and for all, although with different methods. The foreign debt can have different forms in the various countries, but it is one single problem. As has been said, we must reach an agreement for action here and take a joint step toward the decision the world expects us to make.

There is an essential principle: the moral principle of each debtor must be its true ability to pay. There is no other principle. On behalf of our peoples, each of us has the right to not pay more than our economies allow us to pay. We also have the right to not pay if our social situations do not allow us to do so. That is the debtors' moral principle and the leaders' moral duty. We are not forced to accept anything but a fair interest rate. That is a proposal we agree to. We are not forced to finance the wastefulness of the wealthy countries through high interest rates. We must be able to perhaps fix a Latin American interest rate. We must set limits on the payment of the debt in relation to our revenue. We must consider the debt in its real market value and not pay interest at the rate its theoretical and nominal price wants to force us to pay.

Regardless of which of these methods is used a decision must be adopted, because the debt is the wellspring of Latin American rebelliousness. It is the objective essence of our unity and the biggest roadblock in the international economic system. Let us not miss the train of history. Let us not stand still, either collectively or individually, because of hesitation. This is a mandate of the future.

By becoming free of the weight of the debt we will also become free of foreign economic theories that squeeze our people to the creditor's benefit. This is why this meeting represents a decisive step toward unity. Whatever the results, big or small, it will set a precedent for future steps. Unity cannot be negotiated by technocrats; unity will be the result of political actions such as this.

This is not the moment for general models based on equal tariffs and free commerce. This is not the moment for industrial sector coordination. This is a political moment for making decisions on behalf of the people and for qualitative social integration to bring our people health and food, which are what our people urgently need.

All we democratic presidents present here know that unity will not be forged by the oligarchies that have always divided us. Unity will be forged by people struggling for justice through their freely-elected representatives.

Unity will give us a world in which to rescue ethical values that apparently have been lost in some other world. It will give us a world where people will not be the slaves of consumption, where technology will be at the service of man, and not the other way around. This possible world of freedom is our world.

Other people have already opened long roads. There are many long roads to be opened in our world. Ours is apparently a world that was only partially created so that we could build it according to the image we choose and our dreams of liberty. As in the beginning, this is the day of the creation.

If we can separate waters and deserts to irrigate the land and make it fertile, we can, in the midst of the fog of debts, misery, and violence, bring the light of unity.

Fellow countrymen, in 1826, before the delegates who had been convoked by Bolivar in Panama went their different ways, they decided to meet 1 year later here, in Mexico, to continue their work. Now, 161 years later, without having been convoked by any big power, eight Latin American presidents have resumed the march, trusting that all of us will be meeting in the near future.

Finally, we are in this land, this revolutionary capital of Hidalgo, Juarez, and Zapata, near the site where Morelos proclaimed the Constitution of Chilpancingo, even if the fruits of this meeting are modest.

It is up to us to very firmly, without haste or vehemence, do something for our people and for Latin America. Let us not try to do everything now, but let us not resign ourselves to doing nothing this time.

Throughout America a spirited people have their eyes on us, especially the young, to whom tomorrow's world will belong.

Let us meet our responsibilities, and if we do not succeed today, we will tomorrow. If old Bolivar said when he was dying that he had plowed the sea, let us now plow the sea, the winds, the souls, and the spirit, because by plowing we will be opening the furrow of unity that will bring liberty to our people. [applause]

Sanguinetti Speech

PA292133 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1734 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Speech by Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti during the opening ceremony of the Group of Eight meeting at the Juan Luis de Alarcon Theater at the Convention Center in Acapulco—Live]

[Text] Mr President of Mexico—who has honored, moved, and challenged us with his hospitality—Presidents, Ministers, friends:

We are all aware that many people are watching this meeting with expectation. It is clear that we must all respond to those expectations and attention. Some are looking at us with faith and hope; others with interest and skepticism. They remind us of what we have done and what needs to be done. Some look at us with skepticism and seem to regard us as a group of nations here to express our views in a spirit of opposition, contradiction, and perhaps with resentment or a vengeful spirit. They act as if these mature and conscientious nations—after 150 years of independence, history, and rising above the particular cultures developed through those years—had to request someone's authorization or approval to meet and to express their views.

Others look at us perhaps demanding dramatic action that could mean the rupture of a world, an action that could lead us to a confrontation in which our forces would mark the beginning of a skirmish. Perhaps knowing that this is impossible, they might simply seek to diminish beforehand the results and the importance of what we are about to discuss and agree upon here.

However, what really matters is that we are here discussing and agreeing, and, furthermore, that this is not an isolated episode, that it is not a transitory occurence, that it is not a casual product of a meeting we have convoked. This is the result of an effort; it is a milestone within a process of maturity. This meeting, aimed at achieving a political consensus, is not trivial—the Contadora Group's efforts are also part of this process. Some originally viewed those efforts with apprehension and skepticism, while others saw those efforts as a half-hearted attempt. However, those efforts have continued.

I cannot ignore or fail to mention here as an homage to this warm host country we all love that Mexico strongly contributed with its spirit and independent criteria to that step, which undoubtedly was an advancement in the history of that maturation process. No matter what is said, there has been no war in Central America, and our entire continent was not engulfed in war thanks to that encouraging effort, to that faith, and undoubtedly because there was determination to keep going each time we were pronounced dead, or each time we faced attempts to defeat us through skepticism, or to make us give up by saying that no spectacular results had been achieved, when in fact we were preventing the worst tragedy ever experienced in our region during this century—and possibly in its whole history—from occurring. [applause]

Today we see how results are being achieved. During the past few days I toured the convulsed Central American area. I did, and something I can say to you, presidents and friends, is that there is a great desire for peace. Central America has undoubtedly taken its destiny in its own hands. It has a plan for the future. The Esquipulas II agreement is undoubtedly a viable political plan.

In that regard there are already those who are demanding strict, exact, and timely compliance with those agreements, demanding from countries that, unfortunately, have almost never experienced democracy before in their history to achieve it by the next morning, and countries that have almost never enjoyed peace to achieve total peace by the afternoon, as if it were possible to achieve total democracy and total peace by the next morning or the next afternoon. [applause]

However, we can see a Central America that is moving. We have seen it personally. We have talked with the opposition where not too long ago there was no opposition. We have seen that there is a dialogue among people who not too long ago refused to talk, because they were fighting each other, and who are still in the battlefields. However, talks have begun, and the area already has a political plan. How did this happen? Undoubtedly this has been possible thanks to those Latin American countries that realized the need to create an adequate climate, a political atmosphere to make that possible. We always knew that the solution for the Central American crisis could not come from outside Central America. However, we knew that we had to create the framework, the ecological framework where that flower could grow one day.

It begins to bloom today. [Words indistinct] between thorns, amid adverse conditions, amid tremendous difficulties. However, our efforts are moving and progressing, and if there is something I can tell you—Messrs Presidents, ladies and gentlemen—is that efforts are being made. Let us support those efforts now more than ever before.

Naturally, there will always be distored images; there are always those who want to see one thing and not the other. There are always those individuals. You find them today. There are some who only want to see democracy, and then there are others who only want to see a cease-fire. There are others who only want to see the mechanisms of verification. There are others who only want to see elections for a Central American parliament. I think all of this is evidence that we are moving, that we are progressing.

I have spoken with people who only a short time ago did not have the opportunity to talk, speak, or write. All of this is encouraging. This shows us there are possible paths. This is a path that has been proven feasible, and today it is showing results.

It was also in this way that the Cartagena consensus began one day—under the same circumstances. On the one hand, some suspected that it was actually a debtors club as if a debters club were a strange plot, when all it actually was doing was negotiating with a group of creditors. However, we began to make progress and conditions began to change. Our countries undoubtedly have made a tremendous effort. We have made significant progress from that initial situation of being on a commercial basis, on a creditor-debtor relationship, ruled by mercantile law. We all know we have made great progress from that time.

Each one of our countries is aware of the path we must follow toward the common goal. None of us has relied on conventional methods. Each one of us has followed paths that were unheard of 3 years ago. Who would have thought of refinancing, of linking refinancing conditions to product prices? Who would imagine interest rate limitations? Who would even talk of making a distinction between the old debt and the new debt, and thereby establishing different conditions? All this has been occuring gradually. We agree that there is still much to be done. However, this is not the time to begin a task.

We are in a stage of productive maturity at which we have already given our peoples evidence of this possibility. Besides, we have made it compatible with democracy. We have not mortgaged our democracy or our development. We now see there is a need to begin making more profound qualitative changes. We also say it is time to look to the future. We say: Gentlemen, this is as far as we have gone; those of us who have democracies want to consolidate them; we want to help build democracy where there is yet none. However, how are we going to do all this if we cannot join in a scientific and technological revolution?

We need tremendous investment capabilities that we do not have through our own savings, which we are forced to allot to urgent social needs. That is where our challenge lies.

We have to look ahead and tell the industrialized world—as we have discussed until now and in keeping with the maturity of the behavior we have displayed so far—that we must be partners in the future but on the basis of different conditions of justice. How can we consolidate the whole world? How can we do it or agree to do so without a significant change of these conditions? I believe this is possible. If it was possible to prevent war, why not establish the conditions for peace? If it was possible to do all we have done so far, why not from now on take advantage of all the possibilities that democracy offers us?

We have also forged a democracy, an American democracy that is respected today. Naturally, there might be the most varied personal opinions regarding those of us who are here today, but nobody can deny the tremendous democratic efforts made by our peoples and by our societies.

My own country, which is perhaps the smallest one of all those represented here, is proof of that.

On the one hand we are a democracy that was stable for a century, but was lost one day. Perhaps it was our fault because we did not know how to take care of it. Perhaps it was also the result of unstable conditions that occurred one day when we thought democracy was firmly consolidated. This also showed us Uruguayans that there are no islands in our America, and that when movements occur and the winds blow hurricanes can strike any place or any territory. At one time we were arrogant and thought we were an island and that we were identified with the democracy we had built. [applause]

Today, we are also proof that it is possible to emerge in peace from dictatorships and confrontations, as we have done, without violence. We have now experienced 3 years of a democracy that has again found its place with our country's old traditions. It has now been 3 years, and we now find living together in the same city those who were once guerrillas and those who were once the military rulers, without any violence at all. This does not speak well of the government, but of society. It would take just one person to pick up a rock and throw it at another person, and this (?would defeat the principle).

All of this tells us that we are conscientious and mature peoples, that we have already done much, that we are not merely trying to begin from scratch to emerge on the world's stage.

We are here, and therefore the world is looking at us, and therefore there is much speculation about what our steps will be. That is why there are so many discussions about our future. If there is something we must continue doing it is to continue building our own paths, as we have been doing up to now. We must be calm and be aware of our strength, and we must be sure that we have projected a future that ties us with our strong cultural history.

We have a new awareness of our identity. This is the America that once divided an Indian world into the Portuguese-speaking and the Spanish-speaking America owing to the empires of the time. It later experienced the dramatic influence of Africa and then received peoples from all corners of the world, who came here to a world that seemed to have been born for freedom. That is America.

One day the liberators would also dream of that America and break it into a destructive division of the Portuguese- and Spanish-speaking America. Today, new forces again begin to unite us, surpassing all that we inherited from the past and that had divided us. That undoubtedly is an order that we must all obey.

Mr President of Mexico, above all else, today we are undoubtedly experiencing a different situation. As Anatole France once said: The future is hiding behind those who are forging it; let us light the way; let us give life to it. Let us light the way to the future that is calling on us now, on behalf of a past that has already made us aware of our strength and maturity. Let us get started amid the marvelous and splendid scenery of these hills, which silently gaze upon this bay of Acapulco. [applause]

Lusinchi Speech

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[Speech by Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi during the opening ceremony of the Group of Eight meeting at the Juan Luis de Alarcon Theater at the Convention Center in Acapulco—live]

[Text] His Excellency, Mr President of Mexico, His Excellencies, Messrs Presidents, Ministers, delegates, ladies and gentlemen, compatriots from Mexico and from Latin America:

The meeting we begin today in this beautiful city of Acapulco is undoubtedly a very significant event in the region's history because it expresses and summarizes the firm principles of solidarity and understanding among Latin American countries. We are here to reaffirm these principles. We have come here by our own desire, persuaded by our common views and objectives, with the certainty and the confidence that we are among friends and leaders who are willing to make their best efforts to contribute to the resolution of our most fundamental problems.

We are here with renewed faith in our peoples, in their sacrifices, in their possibilities, in their desires, and in their historical duties. Not long ago we wrote that Latin America was facing a crucial moment. This is not a groundless statement. In addition to facing chronic economic and social problems, our continent has had to respond to new challenges representing a serious threat to its development. The situation is very complex and demanding. Therefore, we need new criteria, attitudes, and suitable decisions. We also need to reaffirm and strengthen the belief that no country can face this challenge alone. An urgent joint action is imperative. The time has come to unite. Today we can optimistically maintain that the present political conditions are particularly favorable for achieving that goal. Far-reaching changes are taking place throughout Latin America. These changes are based primarily on the joint and intense practice of democracy.

Most of our nations speak the common language of freedom, democracy, and the progress that our people need. Hence, the systematic development of the periodic solidarity gatherings among representatives of our governments and the broad and open exchange of views on the most relevant aspects of national and international issues are not only possible, but are also more frequent. These gatherings are necessary to attain the common objectives of peace and social, economic, and political development, and to fulfill Simon Bolivar's greatest desire: to achieve the overall prosperity of Latin America.

This meaningful meeting is irrefutable evidence of our statements and constitutes a clear expression of the political development we have attained and which must be further strengthened. Latin America is taking problems into its own hands and is resolving such problems by itself. Latin America's socioeconomic crisis is not new; nor is it unique. Like every other developing nation we are suffering the adverse circumstances caused by unfair international economic relations, which are evident in the continuous deterioration in trade terms, the monopolizing of new technologies, the imposition of trade barriers to our products, the arbitrary handling of international finances, the manipulation of markets for raw materials, and, in a particularly dramatic way, the serious foreign debt problem. In real terms, Latin American statistics show very high unemployment figures, stagnation, and even deterioration in production, an intensification of the inflation process, and a decrease in the levels of life expectancy and education levels.

We can honestly say that in Latin America we have implemented almost all the economic models, some of which have produced some results in other nations. However, we continue to face serious obstacles to the consolidation of our development, even though we possess huge natural resources, a more or less appropriate infrastructure, and a market comprised of approximately 400 million people. We should ask why—there are many different causes, and even if we accept that any simplification can lead to mistakes, with reasonable certainty, we can say that one of the most important is not having followed the theories of our forefathers, who were stubborn advocates of the idea that only in solidarity will Latin America build a common fate.

A quick glance at the present reality shows that today interregional trade is weak, that a suitable pattern for scientific, cultural, and technological exchange does not

exist, and that, in many instances, there is a lack of coordinated action in facing social and economic problems related to a specific region or the entire world. The unavoidable challenge we face today is turning this situation around and returning to our origins. We have come to make history in the presence of our peoples. We cannot disappoint them, and I believe we will not disappoint them.

As I mentioned at the beginning of my speech, favorable winds are blowing in Latin America. We are aware of the need to promote actions to face not only economic difficulties but also to develop approaches according to the dynamics of international policy, to strengthen Latin America's cultural presence in the world, and, at the same time, to intensify trade among our nations.

I want to stress that this meeting of presidents of these eight countries is based on the most genuine Latin American feeling. However, we all know that the immediate intention was the noble mission of contributing to peace in Central America.

Together we have walked an important stretch of the road to Central American peace. Together we have noted with satisfaction the progress that has been made, especially as a result of the signing and implementation of the Esquipulas II agreements, and together we shall see a Central America free of war and enjoying self-determination as a result of democratic coexistence and harmony.

It is evident that this process we have initiated at the highest level is not aimed at artificially creating new structures or unfounded hopes. This moment demands pragmatic solutions and unity, and requires the full utilization of our resources and our potential.

This is our mission, and we must work on it without hesitation. Otherwise we would be making room for more frustration.

We are sure that this new agreement mechanism is appropriate. It promotes broad and clear debates among our countries. Its chances of theoretical and operational expansion are formidable.

We hope this dialogue will contribute to the creation and the consolidation of a more decisive Latin American role in the international arena, and that it will strengthen solidarity and cooperation among Latin American and Caribbean countries. This dialogue should lead us to the reactivation and adaptation of current regional organizations for economic and cultural integration and to propose, in line with the circumstances, new cooperation plans.

Messrs Presidents, our expectation is one of reasonable optimism. We know we have the political will to advance and that the moment and the circumstances are suitable. The people of Latin America and the Caribbean are awaiting our results with hope. Let us make sure that wherever this type of meeting takes place it becomes an amphictyonic site where the big problems that our region must face are discussed.

As a Venezuelan, and as the president of my country, I am particularly pleased to be participating in this meeting with the distinguished presidents of seven sister Latin American nations, to whom I am united by ties of personal friendship and with whom I share unrenounceable aspirations and possibilities of success for the benefit of our people.

The message of the Venezuelan people is one of good will, of open friendship, and of Bolivarian commitment.

I want to state my gratitude to the grand Mexican people, to their illustrious president, Miguel de la Madrid, and to their government for the hospitality they have offered us now as they always do.

I want to conclude by citing Juan Bautista Alberdi who, in 1844 or thereabouts, in presenting his credits for a bachelor's degree from the University of Chile, spoke about the suitability and importance of a general American congress, reminding us of Bolivar's realistic vision when he placed all his hopes for collective progress on the Amphictyonic Congress of Panama and analyzed its importance for the future and its role in history. Alberdi—and this is in his own handwriting—stated: The Constitution that you will produce may not spring to life the moment it is promulgated, but it will be a charter that must indicate the course our common ship must follow to navigate the grand sea of the future.

Messrs Presidents, I hope, and this is not utopic, that at the conclusion of the deliberations we will be able to say that we made the ideas of Alberdi, who spoke on behalf of Simon Bolivar, come true, and that this can be verified in the future. This is a commitment we are obligated to fulfill. Let us accomplish that, Messrs Presidents. Thank you. [applause]

Barco, Lusinchi Hold Talks

PA302009 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0100 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Report by Mary Villalobos from Mexico]

[Text] Today here in Acapulco the ice was broken in Colombian-Venezuelan relations. Presidents Barco and Lusinchi of Colombia and Venezuela had breakfast together. The presidents met for 1 hour and 45 minutes today. They came out of the meeting optimistic.

In this minisummit, at which Colombian and Venezuelan Foreign Ministers Julio Londono and Simon Alberto Consalvi were also present, various forms of agreement were discussed, including direct negotiation, the Carabellada Treaty, and the conciliatory commission proposed by Colombia.

Since the incident of the ship *Caldas* 3 months ago the two neighboring presidents had not exchanged words. But today the situation was different. Enchiladas, Mexican tortillas for breakfast, and happy faces were seen at the end of the meeting. The presidents even talked about sharing the same car.

[Begin recording] [Barco] We have an old friendship with President Lusinchi as well as with Dr Consalvi. It was a very agreeable meeting and we hope to meet again.

[Villa!obos] What possible achievements were reached in this meeting concerning the solution of the quarrel?

[Barco] We did not discuss anything in detail. We did not talk about that issue specifically. We talked about the positive and promising development of the meeting here above all. [end recording]

While Lusinchi and Barco talked, the other presidents finished their work agenda.

Alfonsin 'Satisfied'

PY292315 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1540 GMT 29 Nov 87

[By special correspondent]

[Text] Acapulco, 29 Nov (NA)—Argentine President Raul Alfonsin today said that he was "satisfied" with the results of the first summit of the eight Latin American presidents, especially with the request that foreign creditors limit the interest rates on the foreign debt. Alfonsin did hint, however, that he hopes that "a stronger position" will be adopted in this regard.

During a breakfast with Argentine special correspondents at the La Carcajada residence this morning, Alfonsin provided some advance information on the Acapulco Declaration which expressly allows members of the Group of Eight to make unilateral decisions if claims concerning the foreign debt voiced at the summit are not answered.

The Argentine president also acknowledged that the presidential summit analyzed the Brazilian delegation's initiative related to the old claim that Cuba be readmitted to the OAS. Alfonsin also said that the talks held in Acapulco have given clear indications that "there is a movement toward the creation of a community of Latin American nations."

Delvalle on U.S. 'Campaigns'

PA302134 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 0130 GMT 29 Nov 87

["Exclusive" interview with Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle by unidentified reporter in Acapulco; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Is there any possibility of continuing to plan a trade and economic integration project with other countries to establish a common market?

[Delvalle] At this time we are studying the possible results of the so-called Uruguay roundtable talks. Panama will soon study the possibility of participating in those talks, because Uruguay, Argentina, and Brazil have decided to expand the group, so Panama is considering that possibility. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] In yesterday's speech you said the foreign debt has become a tool in the political manipulation of democracies. Is this the case with Panama?

[Delvalle] When other countries have acted with a certain independent criteria, especially in foreign policy matters, we have experienced pressures and difficulties in refinancing the debt. We are sure it is now coming specifically from those who control U.S. foreign and economic policy.

[Reporter] Have you felt new pressures concerning the Torrijos-Carter Treaties to return the canal to Panama after reports against Panamanian interests were recently issued in the United States? I mean, have you felt new pressures against that treaty?

[Delvalle] Recently the U.S. Senate has been saying the opposite. It has said that the treaty is already a national law and that the United States will abide by it. These actions worry us, however, because they continue to be carried out by people who violently oppose the canal treaties. Thus, Panama must undoubtedly worry, although we also see the situation as follows: As long as we fulfill the treaties, and do so to the letter—the treaty is a law both in Panama and in the United States—the treaty will have to be fulfilled at the end of this century.

We are worried because our traditional enemies in the Senate continue staging campaigns against Panama. We believe that although they are not directly aimed at the Panama Canal, they have the intention of somehow complicating the situation in Panama and its political policy concerning the United States by purposefully attacking the Panama Canal issue.

[Reporter] This question concerns the framework of your foreign policy. A few days ago the Panamanian parliament requested the expulsion of the Southern Command. What do you think of that?

[Delvalle] I think it is a measure of defiance, precisely because Panama is being attacked within the U.S. Senate. Good judgment must prevail, and we believe the Southern Command and Panama's benefit from it must be discussed. I do not see how it would be positive for Panama to oust the Southern Command at this time so I prefer not to give my opinion about that. [passage omitted]

Chilean Exiles Send Letter

PY281554 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1350 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] Montevideo, 28 Nov (EFE)—Members of the "Democratic Chile" group, headquartered in Uruguay, have sent a letter to the Latin American summit in Acapulco (Mexico) requesting the presidents' support so that the "Chilean people may be allowed to express themselves freely and in a sovereign manner."

The letter states that the summit "is an important event that will help Latin Americans unite around the common objectives of peace, democracy, and independent development."

According to "Democratic Chile" a "regime like that of (Augusto) Pinochet, which has systematically violated human rights, has no place within a democratic Latin America."

The letter adds that the present Chilean Government "poses a serious obstacle" to the objectives of the presidents of the Group of Eight (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela).

Exiled Chileans in Uruguay state that "the time has come for Latin American governments and peoples to exert their enormous ethical and political influence so that Chilean society may express itself freely and in a sovereign manner."

Communique Issued

PA292108 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1515 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Communique read by Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda at the closing ceremony of the Group of Eight meeting in the Juan Luis de Alarcon theater at the Convention Center in Acapulco and signed by the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela—live]

[Text] Your Excellencies, with your permission I am going to read the Acapulco Commitment for Peace, Development, and Democracy. The chiefs of state of the member countries of the permanent instrument for political consultation and agreement—Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela—meeting in Acapulco, Mexico, have examined the great political and economic challenges confronted by our countries, and have attempted—on the basis of the basic affinities that unite us—to find answers to fulfill the aspirations and legitimate demands for progress and the well-being of our peoples.

1. Our guidelines for this effort originated from the basic fact that it is imperative to deepen the political understanding among our governments. This is facilitated by the encouraging experience of the permanent instrument for political consultation and agreement and by its immediate predecessors: the Contadora and Support Groups. We are decidedly encouraged by the recognition of a community of interests, of a unified motivation toward democracy with development, justice and independence, and a shared feeling of solidarity with all the countries of our region: Latin America and the Caribbean.

This full unanimity of interests led us to conclude that the permanent instrument offers the best opportunity and scope for us to meet once a year. International negotiations require the formation of a joint power with influence and decision-making authority; consequently, only by having a stronger identity and a more articulate presentation of the Latin American and Caribbean interests will the region's vulnerability vis-a-vis external factors be reduced.

This objective responds to our countries' historical progress, and to a feeling of shared responsibility in the solution of the problems affecting the international community. We call upon the chiefs of state of the industrial nations to hold a political dialogue that will permit us to overcome the obstacles to development, to reorder the world economy, and to reach decisions concerning peace and security.

In the name of the ideals of unity and democracy of our peoples, we issue a fraternal invitation to the Latin American and Caribbean rulers to assume, with us, a renewed commitment to renewal and cooperation for development, which will lead to an authentic community of all our nations.

Our peoples demonstrate today a clear awareness of the nature and immensity of the challenges that confront their countries and their developing position in the international arena. For this reason, we have all agreed that it is historically necessary to construct a common development plan based on our own capacities and needs and on our willingness to give impetus to the regional integration process, to strengthen our cultural identity, and to initiate a more effective participation of our countries in international relations.

It is necessary to transform our feelings of solidarity into action. For this reason, the eight chiefs of state, meeting in Acapulco, agree upon the task of contributing to the formulation of a development project for Latin America

and the Caribbean based on agreement and integration with the motivation of finding peace, security, democracy, and social welfare. Our peoples' legitimate demands for progress so require it.

The Impact of the International Situation on our Region [subhead]

Upon analyzing the evolution of the world today, we concentrated our attention on those political and economic events that have an influence on our development's viability and upon which our governments ought to have more influence. The tensions between the superpowers are feeding a nuclear arsenal that threatens the security of all countries and the existence of the planet itself and continues to cause the channeling of enormous amounts of financial, scientific, and technological resources toward the arms race, instead of toward development. This fact causes imbalances and maladjustments in the international economic system, intensifies political, strategic, and ideological competition between the blocs of power, fans regional conflicts, and transfers tensions to developing countries, affecting their possibilities to progress in peace and stability, and in some cases even their capacity to achieve self-determination.

We have observed with pleasure the progress of the negotiations between the United States and the USSR to achieve agreements regarding the elimination of medium-and short-range nuclear missiles. However, [8-second break in reception] the Geneva disarmament conference.

Therefore, this must be complemented by the multilateral organizations provided for in the UN Charter with a view to the effective participation of the entire international community in the fields of security, the preservation of peace and cooperation.

It is urgent that these agreements also result in reductions in military and arms expenses and an end to the tensions that have had such devastating effects in regional conflicts. This must be done with full respect for the self-determination and the interests of the countries involved.

The international financial organizations and the major industrialized countries have expanded to the point at which they exert great pressure on all aspects of the economy. Their lack of stability—along with the imbalances prevailing among these countries that lack a responsible adjustment that would simultaneously promote world growth—was evident in the recent drop in the main stock markets of the world. These events show there is an atmosphere of growing uncertainty which increases the possibility of an international recession, which would affect the development and welfare of the peoples of the entire world. At the same time, there is no multilateral action that would allow an effective political coordination with the developing countries' participation to stimulate the world economy and trade.

The lack of adjustments in the international economic order has deeply affected our economies and constitutes a source of instability and recession. During this decade, we faced a regression in international economic cooperation.

The foreign debt problem, the massive transfer of financial resources abroad, the extraordinary rise in interest rates, the deterioration of the trade exchange, and the proliferation of protectionism have all led to a reduction in the standards of living and in the possibilities for development in our countries. The economic crisis threatens democracy in the region, because it annuls the legitimate efforts of our peoples to improve their standard of living. Furthermore, it is contradictory that those who appeal for democracy are the ones who impose conditions and adjustments in world economic relations that threaten democracy and that they themselves do not apply in correcting their own imbalances.

The region's economic crisis is evident in the simultaneous and persistent deterioration of production and savings and in the drop in actual revenue. In times when it is necessary to increase investments as part of the process of adapting to international economic changes, most of the countries of our region have been forced to send abroad tremendous amounts of their savings to service the foreign debt.

The social effects of the crisis are also evident in our countries' reductions in public expenditures for education, health, housing, infrastructure, and services. Flexibility in economic and social policy has been restricted, and—despite efforts made for maintaining those programs or services that benefit the most needy groups—poverty has increased, while the opportunities for jobs and progress have decreased.

The oligopolistic control of advanced technologies has generated a new international division of labor that restricts the distribution of technological development and makes our products no longer competitive in the international market, particularly since there is a growing substitution for the main raw materials. This new international division of labor reinforces the exclusion of the developing countries from the productive structure and from the international decision-making centers, creating new forms of dependency and dissimilarities.

Aware of its primary responsibility to its own development process, the region has made extraordinary efforts to adjust and reorder its economies, while, at the same time, it has introduced structural changes to modernize the productive systems. However, self-discipline is not enough. It is evident that no lasting economic program will be compatible with the goal of sustained growth, unless the massive transfer of financial resources abroad is reversed and the service of the debt is restricted to the actual payment capacity of each country.

Likewise, the international community must overcome the unfavorable international economic situation through joint action. In international trade, the obstacles confronted by our countries are worsened by unilateral decisions that flagrantly violate the GATT rules. In addition to satisfying only narrow national interests through coercive and discriminatory measures by the GATT signers, these decisions directly attack international law and cast doubts on the survival of the rules of the multilateral trade system, and particularly the system's basic mechanisms for solving conflicts.

The crisis of the mechanisms of international cooperation contribute to creating a lack of stability in the international economy. An evident sign of this situation is the weakening of the multilateral system. International organizations have stopped receiving the support of some developed countries. This jeopardizes the creation of a system of relations among states based on international law, fairness, and justice.

This serious problem also has a negative effect on culture and education, whose importance for peace, democracy, integration, and development in our region is not always well recognized.

We have therefore pledged to defend our cultural heritage and creations, which are perceived as our peoples' genuine expression. We also pledge to strengthen education, which is a fundamental right in our societies.

In this document, the eight presidents have identified the principal challenges faced by our countries in their efforts for cooperation and development to progress in the framework of a viable political project. Those challenges are: the preservation of peace and security in the region, the consolidation of democracy and respect for human rights, the recovery of our societies' capabilities to generate a sustained and autonomous development, the solution to the foreign debt problem, the establishment of a fair and open international trade system free from protectionist policies, the promotion of the integration process in our countries and in the rest of Latin America and the Caribbean, the effective participation of our countries in international trade, the autonomous development of science and technology, the strengthening of the eight governments' ability to negotiate, and the reiteration of the region's cultural identity and the exchange of educational experiences.

To reinforce actions favoring development with democracy, justice, and independence, we believe it is necessary to reiterate that our region's security must handle aspects such as peace and stability as well as those pertaining to political, economic, and financial vulnerability. In this regard we have pledged to carry out actions to stimulate initiatives calling for disarmament and international security; to encourage mutual trust and a search for solutions to problems that adversely affect the region; to contribute through cooperation and consultation to the defense, strengthening, and consolidation of democratic institutions; to promote political dialogues with other countries and groups inside and outside the region; to agree on positions to strengthen multilateral policies, democratization, and the implementation of international decisions; to promote the establishment of areas of peace and cooperation; to promote the processes of integration and cooperation to strengthen the region's autonomy; to carry out an active and coordinated fight against abject poverty; and to reinforce cooperation against drug trafficking and terrorism. Peace in our region is deeply linked to respect for the principles of self-determination, nonintervention in nations' domestic affairs, peaceful solutions to conflicts, [passage indistinct], legal equality of countries, and international cooperation for development.

The Contadora and Support Groups' actions are unprecedented experiences of Latin American agreement on regional peace and security that have decidedly contributed to the Guatemala agreement signed by the five Central American presidents.

Esquipulas II is the sovereign expression of the Central American countries' political desire to resolve conflicts through dialogue, far from East-West confrontations, and with respect for all countries' legitimate interests.

Important steps have been taken to comply with the agreements. These steps have made promising progress and should continue to receive the international community's highest level of support.

We note our recognition of the Central American governments and sectors of society involved in these important achievements, which open a path of hope for the common goal of achieving stable peace and democracy in the region. We particularly wish to highlight the progress made in national reconciliation, amnesty, reestablishing basic freedoms, and the creation of a Central American parliament.

We are fully aware of the great difficulties in the full and timely compliance with the Esquipulas agreements, but the progress made encourages us to make a fervent call that all parties continue complying simultaneously with the agreements.

We shall continue to actively and with solidarity encourage the process of diplomatic negotiations. We particularly stress our governments' responsibility in the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission. We call upon governments with interest and links in the area to genuinely contribute toward this process and to respect the principles of nonintervention and self-determination, which are necessary for harmonious relations between Central American countries. The current negotiations process should be accompanied by an improvement in the Central American countries' economic and social situation. For this reason, we have agreed to

support an emergency international program of economic cooperation for the Central American countries that includes measures to reconstruct their economies.

The main guidelines of our participation in this program are, among others: stimulating Central American regional trade and granting Central American exports access to our countries' markets; strengthening financial cooperation between Central American countries and our countries by, among other means, providing resources to their financial organizations, such as the Central American Bank for Economic Integration; and revitalizing the Central American integration plan with specific projects to provide emergency food assistance, to identify and carry out agroindustrial and cattle projects, and to provide training.

We will also propose to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees an overall emergency plan for refugees and displaced people in Central America. This endeavor calls for the participation of all countries committed to peace and development, as well as of the institutions for Central American integration, regional organizations, and international financial institutions.

Once again we reaffirm that Central American peace and stability are priority matters for our governments. At stake are not only the consolidation of democracy and the Central American people's development with respect for their self-determination, but also our country's national interests.

We believe the fulfillment of the 1977 Panama Canal Treaties, which includes the turning over of the canal to the exclusive control of Panama, is of primary importance for the preservation of peace and security in the region. Likewise, we reiterate our support of the legitimate rights of the Republic of Argentina to the Malvinas Islands, and we express the need to reach a prompt solution to the dispute through negotiations between both sides.

We stress the importance of the declaration of a peace and cooperation zone in the South Atlantic approved by the UN General Assembly in bringing the African and Latin American peoples closer. We reaffirm the need to prevent the introduction of nuclear weapons in the region and to protect it from the tensions caused by a military confrontation. We encourage the creation of similar mechanisms in the South Pacific and other parts of the region.

We reiterate our determination to continue the struggle against drug trafficking and related activities individually and collectively. At the same time, we reiterate that this objective will not be achieved without concerted actions by all states, particularly by the industrialized countries, where most of these drugs are used.

We support the drafting and implementation of a regional plan for promoting coordinated actions by our countries to eradicate total poverty. In this regard, we reaffirm our commitment to continue promoting measures to improve the living standards of the less favored sectors.

The Latin American parliament, whose institutionalization treaty was recently signed by our governments and by 10 other Latin American and Caribbean governments, is a significant contribution to Latin American solidarity and unity. That initiative has been supported by our eight governments, convinced that it will result in effective means to strengthen democracy and promote the region's integration.

Recovery with sustained economic growth, improving our peoples' standards of living, and strengthening the region's democratic processes require a just and permanent solution to the foreign debt problem, as well as unpostponable measures to reduce the burden of the debt service. To that end, it will be necessary to overcome the uncertainty created by the international economic crisis and to stop the transfer of funds abroad, including that resulting from the deterioration of trade conditions. The results achieved so far are insufficient. However, we have become increasingly aware that any viable solution must include as a necessary condition the sustained growth of the debtor countries and that debt payments must be adjusted in accordance with each country's ability to pay. We are also aware of the political nature of the problem, of the joint responsibility of debtors and creditors in this matter, and of the need to establish contingency plans to lessen the negative effects of foreign factors over which the debtor countries have no control.

The negotiations so far have not reflected these principles. The current negotiations are a temporary, not permanent, solution to the problem, because the debt burden has increased. The negotiation processes are recurrent, too long, and complex which generates uncertainty in designing long-term development policies and inhibits investment and autonomous financial channels.

Therefore, to advance toward a final solution to the problem, it will be necessary for those broadly recognized principles to become reality through specific actions and efforts by all the parties involved within a framework of joint responsibility and fairness.

To face the immediate effects of the problem, and in view of the impossibility of making debt payments greater than the debtor countries' ability to pay—basing that ability on their development needs—we have decided to conduct our actions in the negotiations in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. To ensure sufficient credits with adequate conditions from commercial banks to make it possible to continue development projects, to limit the net transfer of

resources, and to finance an adequate percentage of interest payments and other commitments with those banks. Regular debt payments cannot be made without this financing.

2. To establish limits on interest rates in accordance with methods agreed upon by the parties involved to provide more certainty and continuity to development programs and to economic planning.

In order to progress in the search for a permanent resolution of the problem we have decided to instruct our respective ministers to begin as soon as possible negotiations with the governments of the industrialized countries, the international financial organizations, or the commercial banks, as the case may be, in order to:

1. Create mechanisms that will allow our countries to benefit from the discounts on the market value of the respective debts and concomitant reduction in the service of same debts.

2. Expand mechanisms to compensate for temporary fluctuations beyond the control of the debtor countries—as in the case of interest rates. These mechanisms must not be subject to any conditions.

3. Coordinate efforts to expand the basic resources of international financial organizations and promote new policies within these organizations to provide for adequate net flows for the developing countries. In particular, review IMF policies to ensure adjustment and development. Also, stimulate an active role on the part of the World Bank in keeping with its role as a development bank and establish new World Bank mechanisms to contribute to the resolution of the debt problem, including the issuance of guarantees.

To maintain the multilateral decisionmaking power of the International Development Bank to ensure that it will have the resources that will allow it to be a net contributor to the region's external financing.

To separate the granting and disbursement of commercial bank loans from the agreements with the IMF and the World Bank.

To object to adverse conditions in the financial programs with the multilateral organizations and to the establishment of preconditions in negotiations with the Paris Club.

To bring up before the creditor countries' governments the adoption of relief formulas for the debt incurred with its export creditors' organizations in order to prevent the generation of negative net flows on the part of our countries. In addition, to promote the flexibility of the applicable norms and regulations that will make it possible to adopt innovative solutions to the foreign debt problem.

To support the relatively less developed countries in the region in their efforts to obtain particularly favorable conditions in the negotiation of their foreign debts, in addition to those conditions that may be instituted by the Latin American countries.

To ensure, within the framework of the Uruguay round of talks, the link between the payment of financial obligations and the access of exports from the debtor countries into the international market.

These negotiations will take place within the framework of permanent coordination and consultation with all of our governments.

In the event that the actions we have listed here do not materialize, some countries—in view of their own particular situation—may be forced to take unilateral steps to limit the service of their debt so that it will be in accordance with their development needs. In this respect, we express our solidarity with the countries which, in exercising their sovereignty, take measures to limit the service of their debt to their ability to pay.

We have agreed to strengthen the permanent consultation and agreement procedures to coordinate our positions in the international trade negotiations of the Uruguay round of talks. We intend to join our efforts to ensure that the commitments signed by the industrialized countries in the Punta del Este declaration, especially those applying to the elimination of protectionist barriers and agricultural subsidies, are kept.

In addition, we expect that the Uruguayan round of talks will contribute to resolving the monetary and financing problems related to development. At the same time, we are determined to strengthen our unity so that the results of the negotiations on services, copyrights, and investment related to trade will not harm the autonomous development of our countries' productive sectors.

We reiterate that the principle of a special and more favorable treatment to the developing countries must be reinforced.

We commit ourselves to acting in unison to fight against unilateral decisions based on domestic laws or on forcible policies, and to struggle so that a fortified international trade system will implement its norms and principles as an essential condition for the economic security and sovereignty of our countries.

We also object to the demand for unilateral trade concessions on the part of the area countries as a precondition for obtaining foreign financing.

Regional integration is a political commitment of the utmost importance for our countries and a tool for change and modernization that must have the active cooperation of all social and economic entities.

We have a clear awareness of the urgent need to strengthen regional integration and cooperation. For this reason, we have decided that they will be part of our national political plans. Integration is the indispensable tool with which to guarantee the most effective participation by the region in international relations through an expansion of the region's capacity for negotiating with third countries.

We assume the commitment of reinforcing the integration processes in which our countries participate and to support others that are taking place in the region.

We will pay particular attention to the mechanisms for cooperation and integration among our countries that are geared toward resolving and meeting our peoples' basic social needs. Likewise, we have decided to intensify the initiatives for cooperation among our countries as well as to expand and to diversify our reciprocal trade, including the substitution of imports from outside our region.

It is equally necessary to take advantage of the potential our countries have to complement each others' economies. To this end, we will try to adjust financing and payment mechanisms so these will strengthen regional integration.

These measures as a whole will further the gradual and progressive expansion of the region's economy. Their ultimate objective will be a Latin American common market. Likewise, we acknowledge the need to contribute to an improved operation of the Latin American cooperation and integration bodies and to a more efficient coordination between these bodies through a clear definition of their operational areas.

On the other hand, we recognize that it would be advisable for the Latin American countries to find—through cooperation—solutions to the problem of debt owed to each other. We also attach importance to launching the Latin American program for technical assistance and exchange of information on foreign debt matters approved by the Cartagena declaration. We agreed to give impetus to a program of association and cooperation in science and technology that will bring together national public and private resources so our region can develop its own technology in priority areas, particularly in advanced technologies. This program will include joint actions that will emphasize training, the coordination of national networks of scientific and technological information, the full and coordinated use of international organizations' programs, and the drafting of joint cooperation programs.

We view our cultural heritage as an undeniable part of Latin America's character that allows us to relate to the modern world's complex realities but to preserve our historical roots. This heritage will also make it possible to strengthen democracy as a lifestyle and our own system of values. We also undertake the commitment to try to make cultural integration promote our societies' overall development and modernization.

Bearing in mind our societies' vital role in promoting culture, we will work for the adoption of national laws to encourage cultural creations and to mobilize the production sectors to devote resources to this area. This will promote greater knowledge among our peoples and will intensify cultural and educational exchanges. In education we have agreed to increase our exchange of experience in literacy matters and to increase the various levels of education. Likewise, we have decided to expand our common experience in such areas as research, training, and production of printed matter.

Aware of the importance of cultural and educational rapprochement as a means for regional integration, our governments will promote cultural actions to preserve and enrichen our historical and natural heritage and to use the communications media to increase knowledge about the region's diverse values.

We will also promote the broadest possible links and cooperation in matters of artistic and cultural creations. Our governments will devote sufficient resources to these objectives. The promotion of culture and education in the region will pave the way for a system of liberties that will allow our peoples' genuine expressions to flourish, strengthen our popular and traditional cultures, and guarantee increasing access by all social groups to cultural and artistic creations and assets as well as to the various levels of the educational process.

Finally, we have instructed the foreign ministers to review during their upcoming meeting in Cartagena, Colombia, a set of guidelines for cooperation on the basis of this Acapulco commitment for peace, development, and democracy we have signed today.

Encouraged by the fruitful results of this first meeting of eight Latin American presidents, we have agreed to meet again in Uruguay during the second half of 1988.

Thank you very much. [applause]

Lusinchi Departs

PA292054 Paris AFP in Spanish 1941 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Acapulco, Mexico, 29 Nov (AFP)—Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi left here today after having participated in the first presidents' meeting of the Instrument for Political Agreement [Mecanismo de Concertacion Politica].

Lusinchi and his entourage left at 1305 hours (1905 GMT) without issuing statements to the press.

The summit meeting, which started Friday, 27 November, was also attended by the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, and Uruguay.

Barco Departs

PA292036 Paris AFP in Spanish 1942 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Acapulco, Mexico, 29 Nov (AFP)—Colombian President Virgilio Barco today left for his country after having attended the first presidential summit meeting of the Instrument for Political Agreement.

The meeting, which began on 27 November, was also attended by the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

President Barco left at 1310 hours (1910 GMT), without speaking to the press.

Delvalle Departs

PA292222 Paris AFP in Spanish 2207 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Acapulco, Mexico, 29 Nov (AFP)—Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle left today to return home after the end of the meeting of the Group of Eight, during which the eight presidents joined efforts for a political convergence.

At the summit, which began last Friday, 27 November, the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela also participated.

Delvalle left Acapulco at 1505 (2105 GMT).

Sarney Departs

PA292313 Paris AFP in Spanish 2220 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Acapulco, Mexico, 29 Nov (AFP)—Brazilian President Jose Sarney left today for Costa Rica, from where he will return to his country tomorrow, following the end of the Group of Eight summit, at which the eight presidents joined efforts for a political negotiation.

The presidents of Argentina, Uruguay, Peru, Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama also attended the summit, which began last Friday, 27 November, in Acapulco.

Sarney left at 1530 (2130 GMT) preceded by the presidents of Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama.

On Monday morning, Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and Uruguayan President Julio Sanguinetti will return to their respective countries, while Alan Garcia of Peru will begin a tour of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica.

Garcia Departs

PA301540 Paris AFP in Spanish 1502 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Acapulco, 30 Nov (AFP)—Peruvian President Alan Garcia left Acapulco today after participating in the first presidential summit of the Instrument for Political Agreement.

Garcia departed on a Peruvian Air Force plane at 0810 local time (1410 GMT) without making any statements to the press.

The presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Uruguay, and Venezuela also participated in the 27-29 November summit.

Alfonsin, Sanguinetti Depart

PA301534 Paris AFP in Spanish 1455 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Acapulco, 30 Nov (AFP)—Argentine and Uruguayan Presidents Raul Alfonsin and Julio Maria Sanguinetti left Acapulco today on board Alfonsin's plane after participating in the Group of Eight presidential summit.

Alfonsin and Sanguinetti departed Mexico at 0820 local time (1420 GMT) for Montevideo, where the Argentine president will stay for a few minutes and then proceed to Buenos Aires. [passage omitted]

Radio Broadcast Group Issues Communique

PY281728 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] The 18th General Assembly of the International Radio Broadcast Association (AIR), which was held at the Punta del Este San Rafael Hotel, ended a few hours ago, after several resolutions were issued regarding restrictions to freedom of expression and the situation of the radio broadcasting sector in the Latin American countries.

Several important cables were sent to the various countries, and several communiques were released.

A cable was sent to the Latin American presidents who are now meeting in Acapulco, Mexico. Others, on the situation being experienced in Nicaragua, were sent to Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and Bishop Obando y Bravo.

The text approved by the 18th AIR General Assembly, which was recently held in Uruguay, calls for a formal request to be made to the Nicaraguan Government urging compliance with the agreements contained in the Esquipulas accord.

The text states that the Nicaraguan Government has already reopened *La Prensa* and the Managua station Radio Catolica, and urges compliance with the other terms of the agreement. It makes the request that the private radio and television stations, which were taken over at the time of the revolution, be allowed to go back into business, and that the government respect the rights of the media to freely carry out their duties.

A clause of the document approved by the AIR Assembly states that an AIR commission will travel to Nicaragua in the next few weeks to discuss with Obando y Bravo and Nicaraguan Government officials ways of solving the current situation.

Another important AIR resolution deals with the situation in Argentina, where President Alfonsin reportedly failed to fulfill the promises he made regarding freedom of the press and freedom of expression.

The AIR Assembly decided to request that President Alfonsin:

1. Grant Argentine citizens the right to freely use their national radio frequencies, as he promised at the AIR Special General Assembly in Buenos Aires in June 1985.

2. Instruct his country's appropriate organizations to fight the illegitimate proliferation of clandestine state and private radio stations, which violates international treaties.

3. Reject the Radio Broadcast Bill drafted by the Council for the Consolidation of Democracy, which is discriminatory, excessively regulatory, and authoritarian. Moreover, it disregards freedom of expression, promotes the creation of hundreds of new state-owned radio stations, gives state employees the right to freely interpret the content of the laws, subjects broadcasts to censorship, and attempts to legalize the activities of clandestine stations. The contents of this bill are a threat to the basic freedoms of the citizens, and they endanger Argentine democracy.

4. Make sure the laws on radio broacasting really respect the right to freedom of expression and the right to free competition.

The topics discussed during the AIR Assembly also included the situations in Panama, Colombia, Chile, and Paraguay.

Regarding the situation in Panama, the declaration states:

1. It has been noted that freedom of expression has been deteriorating in this country. In the last few months, the government has been adopting repressive measures that clearly disregard the right to freedom of expression, and it has closed two radio stations and three dailies, thus violating the basic laws of the country.

2. The Panamanian Government promulgated a decree in July 1987 that threatens to suspend the concessions granted to radio stations if they broadcast opinions, ideas, or principles opposing the current regime.

3. The Panamanian Government has been harassing national and foreign journalists, and has even expelled some of them.

4. To counteract this situation, the Panamanian Government has promised to reopen the closed media but only if the media accept conditions imposed by the government.

5. The AIR Assembly points out that the bill imposing conditions on media freedom of expression, which was proposed by the Panamanian executive branch, was rejected by the legislative branch. The bill's stipulations were unacceptable because they restricted the rights to freedom of expression and freedom of thought, and prohibited all types of opposition to the current government.

In view of the above, the AIR Assembly decided to ask the Panamanian Government to:

1. Immediately reopen Radio Mundial and VW Radio Continente, and the dailies *Extra*, *La Prensa*, and *El Siglo* .

2. Annul Decree No 61, dated 24 July (?1967), because it obstructs the free development of radio and television.

3. Immediately stop harassing national and foreign journalists, thus granting the country the right to freedom of expression.

4. Make this resolution known to the internatinal media, particularly to the Inter-American Press Association, and its affiliated radio stations, which will broadcast this resolution.

Regarding the situation in Colombia, the AIR released the following resolution:

1. The AIR decided to reject the text and philosophy of Bill 41/87, which was submitted to the Colombian Congress, because it attempts to restrict freedom of expression and to interfere directly with free enteprise and free trade, thus violating the rights of the citizens.

2. The AIR decided to send the president of the Colombian Congress a letter containing all these resolutions, so that its firm position will become known. The letter also states that, if necessary, it is ready to send an AIR delegation or commission to Colombia to prevent this bill from being approved by the Colombian Congress.

The resolution regarding the situation in Paraguay states:

Freedom of expression, which is indispensable in a democratic state, does not exist in the Republic of Paraguay.

In this country several radio stations that were complying with their duty of criticizing the government have been deprived of their right to broadcast, and have had their permits revoked. The permits will only be renewed if the stations submit to certain 'legal' requirements.

The AIR thus asked the Paraguayan Government to:

1. Reestablish freedom of expression in the country, and grant all radio stations that comply with the administrative requirements that are not subject to political interpretations the right to carry out their daily tasks, which have much social importance, without being subjected to any economic or political pressure.

2. Immediately reopen the daily *ABC Color.*

This was the text of the most important decisions reached by the AIR General Assembly, which ended in Uruguay a few hours ago.

Briefs

New IAPA President Elected

Santiago, 19 Nov (EFE)—Ignacio E. Lozano, editor of the newspaper *La Opinion* of Los Angeles, United States of America, has been elected the new president of the IAPA at the 43d annual meeting of that organization. Lozano's term in office is 1987-88. [Excerpt] *[Madrid EFE in Spanish 2111 GMT 19 Nov 87 PY]*

Cuba

Alarcon on Immigration, Radio Marti Link

PA010320 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Report by Marianela Samper]

[Text] An additional immigration agreement was not signed during the recent conversations held in Mexico City by Cuban and U.S. delegations. The delegations agreed to reestablish the agreement signed in New York on 14 December 1984. Cuban Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon was at the center of these conversations.

[Begin Alarcon recording] This agreement included the initiation of several things simultaneously. On one hand, the return to Cuba of 2,746 persons who have been identified as [word indistinct] to enter the United States, according to U.S. law. That is to say, they are persons to whom the United States was not able to give an immigrant visa for various reasons. First, not all the people were considered excludable by the U.S., only 2,746 persons [words indistinct]. In the second place, there are not 2,746. There are 2,746 prisoners. They are not exchangeable, they cannot give themselves different names to come up with the same number, [words indistinct]. There is a list containing a determined number of persons who have been properly identified, as is specified in the 1984 agreement. [end recording]

Alarcon stated that the 1984 agreement included the normalization of immigration relations, which means that Cuba would be treated in the same manner as any other country. According to U.S. laws, each year 170,000 persons from all over the world may enter the United States under immigrant status. In addition to this specification, there is a clause that reads that no more than 20,000 persons from one particular country may enter under that status, in any given year. In this regard, Alarcon referred to the Cuban situation:

[Begin recording] The agreement states that during the 1st and perhaps 2d year the number of persons who could obtain an immigrant visa would come close to the 20,000 limit, but this is just a temporary situation for Cuba because for several years there have been persons who have tried to obtain a U.S. visa and [words indistinct] there has been a freeze in processing these immigrants. Thus, we cannot compare with those countries which have candidates for entrance into the United States because we have persons who have been waiting for years to receive a response to their immigration application. I must add, the other [word indistinct] that, clearly and mathematically, form part of the 1984 agreement, and that there are 3,000 persons who could travel from Cuba in the 1st year of the agreement [words indistinct] for crimes against the revolution and their families. [end recording]

When the United States decided unilaterally to broadcast the ill-named Radio Marti in 1985, Cuba took several measures. The first was to suspend the immigration agreement and the trips to Cuba by Cubans living abroad. The second measure was to affirm Cuba's right to broadcast to the United States using the medium-wave band. The agreement signed in Mexico on 20 November separates the points related to immigration from the ones related to the radio broadcasts.

[Begin recording] We came to this conclusion because of two basic considerations. First, the fact that the Cuban Government continued to believe that the 1984 agreement regarding immigration was positive and that it favored us; and, the fact that [words indistinct] the many exchanges with the Americans. This process has been under way since last year but mostly since this summer, and we managed to obtain a formula which would seemingly allow the renewal of the immigration agreement and make use of the radio broadcast situation to modify our positions. They have not modified their position, either [words indistinct] but we found a formula that would allow us to deal with these subjects in a manner that would be consistent with our basic position. [end recording]

Cuba has clearly explained that it has the right to continue to broadcast in the medium-wave band to all U.S. territory because we also have the capacity and technical means to do so. Our goal, however, is not to interfere with the thousands of local U.S. radio stations or reduce their efficiency. Our goal is to reach an agreement that will allow our broadcasts to be made without detriment to them.

In conclusion, Ricardo Alarcon stated that the radio problems will continue to be debated next year on a date to be determined through Cuban and U.S. diplomatic channels. He added that before this date, and in accordance with the immigration accord, delegations from both countries will meet again to examine and evaluate progress of the agreement implementation.

Atlanta Prison 'Most Repressive' in U.S.

FL010203 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] The Cuban-born prisoners who rioted in the maximum-security prison in Atlanta, Georgia, are maintaining their demands and their 90 U.S. citizens as hostages.

Press agencies acknowledge that this prison has become the most repressive in the federal system since it began functioning as a prison center for Cuban immigrants who arrived in the United States in 1980. The authorities have declared that these immigrants are undesirable elements.

Havana PCC Meeting Ends; Lezcano Reelected

FL301558 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has closed the party's assessment meeting in Havana City Province. Fidel said that never before had a provincial party meeting given rise to so much interest and expectations. The commander in chief reiterated his conviction that we are working better, we are truly rectifying, we are making progress.

He also said he was very pleased with and had an extremely high opinion of the party's work, which was analyzed during 3 days of sessions. Fidel noted that we had had the great honor of having CPSU and FSLN representatives attending the meeting. Fidel explained that they had been invited not as observers but as participants, beloved brothers, and members of one big family. Fidel said he hoped television and the press would report extensively on the assembly.

It was earlier reported that Jorge Lezcano Perez, member of the PCC Central Committee, had been ratified as first secretary of the PCC Provincial Committee in Havana City.

Lezcano Gives Report

FL282007 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Report from Palace of Conventions in Havana]

[Text] [Reporter] The morning session of the Havana City Provincial PCC Assembly has just ended. The meeting will resume at 1500. I believe we can say now, without fear of being wrong, that this is a historic assembly and that it transcends the boundaries of Havana City Province. We all know that Havana has become an experiment, a gigantic social project. The issues discussed here are undoubtedly followed closely by our whole population.

Of the 460 delegates participating in this assessment meeting, 241 are directly involved in production. This has meant that this morning's session focused on production problems. The situation in several Havana enterprises has been discussed. These include Planta Habana, the Guanabacoa ironworks [words indistinct] interesting dialogue between our commander in chief and a Spanish businessman who is helping us in the assembly work of this important enterprise. There were also debates concerning other important enterprises in Havana, such as the Gerardo Abreu Fontan and the shipyards. We will be able to report further on the commander in chief's exchanges with the delegates in subsequent broadcasts. We offer you some excerpts of the report presented by Comrade Jorge Lezcano, first PCC secretary in Havana City Province.

[Begin Lezcano recording] I will first outline the subjects I consider most important to report to this assembly. I will do it in a way that will make you clearly understand that both my conscience and my heart are in these words. I will also do so in the conviction that my words possess the powerful force of the feelings of 102,000 communists and the immense majority of 2 million Havana residents.

Comrades, I categorically and absolutely declare that the revolutionary ideas of Comrade Fidel are prevailing in the capital. The workers and the people in general have not only understood and embraced his ideas, have not only carried out the party policy of rectifying errors and negative tendencies; they have also devoted themselves completely, with the passion and optimism characterizing the proletariat, to the fulfillment of the tasks that are transforming our city and hence our men and women.

When we speak about the qualitative results of the work in this stage under discussion, we must stress three aspects. First, what we call the new attitude of workers, the people, the cadres; that is, the political-moral state, the higher level of awareness which is daily transmitted to such an extent that it creates an entire state of revolutionary effervescence. This awareness, in becoming a collective, massive awareness, is capable of overcoming any obstacle, any task. As we have seen, it can accomplish unlimited labor feats.

This we can see in the examples we encounter daily, in the thousands of students who work on social projects in the dawn hours. We see it in the 12- and 14-year-olds working proudly in the child care centers. We see it in teachers spending their vacations working the 40 hours in construction that the party requested on behalf of the Provincial Assembly, in the doctors who lay down their scalpels or leave their offices to turn into construction workers. We see it in the minibrigade members who work 12, 15, or more hours to fulfill their commitment. We see it in the men who make up the contingents who have to be ordered to rest and limit the number of hours they can work. We see it in the thousands and thousands of women who set aside their housework to carry out the most difficult and complex construction tasks. We see it in the work collectives that are as proud to fulfill their production plan as they are to keep their commitment to the social project they are engaged in.

In short, it is this new attitude that allows us to see people in Havana working as hard in construction at night as in the daytime. It translates into a conscious effort in each center to never concur in the mistakes of the past. New solutions are being found to old, inherited problems.

The second aspect that stands out is the work of the party, its new style, its new methods, its greater authority.

Comrade Fidel saw it as a revolutionary imperative that the party in Havana City Province, especially in its municipalities, have the same authority as in the rest of the provinces. The capital's characteristics and complexity required this. That important and strategic concept is becoming a reality. Our cadres and members have worked hard in the pursuit of this objective. But we have also had the understanding and the support of the administrators, particularly the ministers. In absolute fairness, I must also say that this has all been possible thanks especially to Comrade Fidel's constant encouragement and support. [applause]

I do not exaggerate in declaring that despite our defects and limitations, the party today is at the heart of everything. It heads the process of rectification of errors and negative tendencies. It has created the conditions to channel the energies and will of the masses to transform the capital.

Third, I would like to emphasize a qualitative element that has greatly influenced results today and will influence the superior results we will undoubtedly obtain in the future. This element is the clarity of ideas, the definition of policies. We ask not only where do we go, but, more importantly, how do we get there. More ambitiously speaking, we talk not only about building socialism but how to build socialism in our circumstances. I will, then, try to demonstrate that what we do in the capital to solve our problems has a higher value: it transcends our boundaries.

To mark the path we must follow in our city, our commander in chief has mapped out a combination of programs which as a whole respond to the most pressing needs of the population in perfect harmony with the country's economic development. No necessary production investment is sacrificed. New solutions are sought. Resources are fully utilized. The utilization of our labor force is optimized. What we have is employed more rationally. We realize, as you do, that this is the correct path to socialism with all—with the support of all—our people, their working class, the party, the Union of Young Communists, the trade unions, the administration, all the mass organizations. We have all worked tirelessly, convinced that the rectification process we have undertaken will lead us to the socialist goals we have set for ourselves. This explains the advances that we report in these assemblies.

Nevertheless, we Havana residents, with full conviction, proudly, wholeheartedly say that without Fidel's active and constant presence, without his guidance, his encouragement, his support, we would not have what we have today. There is not a single municipality, suburb, settlement, center, young person, revolutionary that does not feel him near. At any time, on any day, there is Fidel: Guiding and leading the minibrigades, the enterprises, the people; guiding and leading the party members, the party itself. Comrade Fidel, for all that you do for our capital, for all that you do for our people, for all that you do for our revolution, thank you, thank you a thousand times. [end recording]

Haiti

CNG Issues Decree Rescinding CEP Memberships

FL301740 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 1902 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Monitored in progress]

[Text] ...Articles 58, 63, 66, 89, 94, 134, 285, 285.1, and 289 of the Constitution;

In view of the proclamation of the National Government Council [CNG] on 7 February 1986;

In view of the decree of 7 February 1986 dissolving the legislative chamber;

In view of the message of 13 April 1987 announcing the new composition of the CNG;

In view of the decree of 13 May 1987 creating the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP];

In view of the decree of 19 June 1987 defining the rules governing the elections for members of the Administrative Councils for the Communal Sections, for members of the municipal councils, and for deputy, senator, and president of the Republic;

In view of the decree of 2 July 1987 abrogating the decree of 19 June 1987;

In view of the decree of 3 July 1987 modifying the decree of 13 May 1987 concerning the CEP;

In view of the decree of 13 May 1987 appointing the members of the CEP;

In view of the decree of 26 June 1987 appointing two new members to the CEP in replacement of the representatives of the Episcopal Conference of Haiti [CEH] and of the Protestant churches;

In view of the decree of 10 August 1987 promulgating the Electoral Law drawn up by the CEP;

Considering that national sovereignty resides in the entirety of the nation's citizens;

Considering that the CNG has solemnly committed itself, before the nation, to install a true democracy and to reestablish representative institutions by means of free and honest elections;

Considering that in respect for the Constitution ratified by referendum, the CNG formed a CEP charged, under the terms of Article 289, with drawing up and executing the Electoral Law that was to govern the organization of general elections nationwide;

Considering that ever since it was formed, the CEP, in contempt of the laws that constituted it, has been posing as a supreme power and even proclaiming itself to be above any and all national institutions, including the government of the Republic;

Considering that, in violation of the Constitution and of the terms of the oath that its members took before the Supreme Court of Cassation, the CEP through its acts and actions is jeopardizing the unity of the nation which it should be taking pains to safeguard by carrying out its mission with dignity, independence, impartiality, and patriotism;

Considering that the CEP is inviting [invite] uncalled for interference by foreign powers in the nation's internal affairs, and that without the knowledge of the government, is entertaining relations with them that could endanger the integrity and sovereignty of the nation;

Considering that the CEP's flagrant violations of the Electoral Law which the CEP itself formulated have provoked vehement protests from numerous political parties and candidates to elected office;

Considering that, following the serious wrongdoing enumerated above, it is imperative that the CNG, in the higher interests of the nation, rescind the decree of 13 May 1987 appointing the members of the CEP, the decree of 26 June 1987 appointing two new members to replace those designated by the CEH and the Protestant churches, and the decree of 10 August 1987 promulgating the CEP's Electoral Law of 29 July 1987;

Upon the recommendation of the ministers of interior and national defense, and of justice, and following deliberation in the Council of Ministers, the CNG decrees the following:

Article One: The decree of 10 August 1987 promulgating the Electoral Law and the decrees of 13 May and 26 June 1987 appointing the members of the CEP are hereby rescinded.

Article Two: As of the publication of this decree, all necessary measures to safeguard and protect government property in the possession of the CEP will be taken by the competent authorities, and this without prejudice to the rights of third parties.

Article Three: This decree abrogates all laws or dispositions thereof, all decrees or dispositions thereof, and all decree-laws or dispositions thereof that may be contrary to it, and shall be published and executed diligently by the ministers of interior and national defense, justice, and economy and finance, each acting in his sphere of competence.

Issued from the National Palace in Port-au-Prince on 29 November 1987, in the 184th year of independence, by the CNG.

Signed by: Henri Namphy, lieutenant general, Haitian Armed Forces [FADH], president; Williams Regala, major general, FADH, member; and Luc D. Hector, attorney, member.

Also: Williams Regala, major general, FADH, as minister of interior and national defense; Francois St Fleur, attorney, minister of justice; Leslie Delatour, minister of economy and finance; Francois Gerard C. Noel, attorney, interim minister of information and coordination; Herard Abraham, colonel, FADH, minister of foreign affairs and worship; Gustave Menager, agronomist, minister of agriculture, natural resources, and rural development; Patrice Dalencourt, minister of education, youth and sports; Francois Gerard C. Noel, attorney, minister of social affairs; Jacques Joachim, engineer, colonel, FADH, minister of public works, transport, and communications; Mario Celestin, minister of commerce and industry; Jean Verly, lieutenant colonel, FADH, minister of public health and population; and Jean Rene Conde, minister without portfolio.

Namphy Addresses Nation on CEP, Elections

FL301851 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 2349 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Speech by Lieutenant General Henri Namphy, president of the National Council of Government [CNG] and commander in chief of the Haitian Armed Forces, from the National Palace in Port-au-Prince—live]

[Text] People of Haiti, the critical situation of the past few days obliges the CNG to set aside the strict reserve that it had imposed upon itself in connection with the constitutional mission falling to the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] to organize free, honest, and democratic elections.

In view of the duly ascertained failure of the CEP to accomplish the historic mission entrusted to it, and in view of the threats to the unity of the Haitian family and to the safeguarding of national sovereignty arising from this failure, the CNG finds itself in the position of being obliged to take measures necessary to ensure national salvation.

People of Haiti, the current crisis can be understood and resolved only in the light of certain facts. A misunderstanding skillfully orchestrated around the electoral

decree of 19 June cost the country weeks of disturbances, despite the fact that the CNG, which believes in the virtues of dialogue and concerted action, took back this decree on 2 July 1987.

The work meetings between the CNG and the CEP, despite a fruitful beginning, were abruptly suspended at the initiative of the CEP on 4 July 1987 and were never resumed, in spite of the possibility of resumption offered by the government in a letter bearing that same date in answer to a letter from the CEP.

The absence of democratic traditions, aggravated by a period of almost 30 years during which political parties practically disappeared, required close cooperation between the two constitutional authorities so the electoral process could be a success. One of these authorities was called upon to govern during the period of transition and the other to organize, in a fully independent manner, free and honest general elections.

Unfortunately, the members of the CEP, provided for in the Constitution and instituted by government decree, let themselves be influenced by diverse pressure groups, and they deviated from the law and from reason. Not only did they wittingly violate certain imperative prescriptions of the Constitution and of the dispositions of the Electoral Law which they themselves had written, but, in addition to this, they set themselves up as a supreme power, violating basic principles of justice, in contempt of the legitimate aspirations of the Haitian people. In addition to cases of flagrant and shocking violations, the CEP even went so far as to invite foreign powers to involve themselves in an uncalled for manner in what are essentially internal affairs of the nation. This casts a slur on our dignity as a free and sovereign people.

That is why the CNG, aware of its responsibilities and invested with the constitutional and historic mission that has been entrusted to it, decided, in the national interest, to put an end to this. In so deciding, the CNG is not motivated by any personal or partisan interest. Faithful to the commitments it has already made, the CNG can have no interests other than those of the fatherland at heart.

The CNG condemns the acts of violence that have thrown the Haitian family into mourning over the past few days and most particularly today. Under these circumstances it addresses its sorrowful condolences to the relatives and friends of the victims, both Haitian and foreign.

At this turning point in the life of the nation, it is very important to bring about a rebirth of trust on the part of the people and of all political sectors concerned.

For its part, the CNG reiterates that in keeping with the established calendar, it is determined to carry through to the end the democratic process that is to culminate in the installation on 7 February 1988 of the president who will have been freely elected by the Haitian people.

Long live a Haiti forever more united. Thank you.

CEP Officials Seek Embassy Protection

PA301816 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1719 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 30 Nov (DPA)—Nine members of Haiti's Provisional Electoral Council (CEP) today sought refuge in an as-yet-unidentified foreign embassy in this capital. According to reports, the refugees have not sought asylum, only protection.

Reports in this regard followed a wave of rumors that CEP members had been arrested after yesterday's announcement by General Henri Namphy, the head of the National Council governing the country, that the CEP had been abolished.

Namphy accused the CEP members of "high treason" against the Haitian people for having invited foreigners to witness the elections, which were suspended yesterday because of the violence that was registered throughout the country.

Today, businesses and schools remain closed and public transportation service in the capital and other cities has been paralyzed, apparently in protest over the actions against the CEP.

Many political leaders, including Louis Dejoie, Marc Bazin, Francois Latortue, and Sylvio Claude, have protested the prohibition and have urged the population to continue struggling until victory is achieved.

The situation in Port-au-Prince is very tense today. Small groups of people have been gathering on street corners. However, no act of violence has erupted so far.

Report Denied

FL302130 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] The news we reported at the beginning of this newscast about the members who were removed from the CEP who had sought refuge in foreign embassies has just been denied by persons close to the members.

Persons close to the CEP members told AFP that the members are lying low but are not in Western embassies. According to these persons, the CEP members simply visited these foreign missions in order to maintain contacts.

This is thus a retraction by AFP, which had at first announced that the CEP members who were removed had sought refuge in different embassies.

Capital Still Reacting to Election Violence

Radios Attacked Again

PA301422 Paris AFP in Spanish 1344 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 30 Nov (AFP)—A man was shot to death last night in Port-au-Prince. Meanwhile, machinegun fire and grenade explosions were heard, allegedly fired by Duvalierists.

Radio stations that were attacked yesterday by armed groups were attacked again last night.

There is little activity in Port-au-Prince, and only a few buses are running. Most stores in the downtown area are closed.

People seem to be staying home until it is safe for them to go out, in view of the reign of terror unleashed Sunday by Duvalierist groups opposed to the presidential and legislative elections scheduled for yesterday. This wave of terrorism, which resulted in the suspension of the elections, has already resulted in 22 dead and 67 wounded, according to hospital sources.

'Panic Continues'

PA301911 Paris AFP in Spanish 1728 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Report by special correspondent Edouard Pons]

[Excerpts] Port-au-Prince, 30 Nov (AFP)—The residents of this capital have locked themselves in their residences in shock because of Sunday's killings by "neo-Duvalierist" bands and because of the threat of more violence. Panic continues following the Sunday of terror, during which those bands savagely murdered at least 22 persons and wounded another 67, because there were shootings and explosions throughout the night.

At noon today the body of a man who was killed last night in the capital's downtown area was still on the street.

Radio stations that were attacked Sunday were once again machinegunned. Two of the radio stations, including Radio Soleil, suspended their transmissions. Both radio stations belong to the Catholic Church and had participated in popular demonstrations.

Radio stations still on the air are broadcasting only music and reports, interspersed with messages from Port-au-Prince residents to relatives. [passage omitted]

Some members of the Provisional Electoral Council have sought refuge in various Western embassies and many political leaders have left their residences. Most of the parties that had candidates in the elections have remained silent. The churches, which played an important role in preparing for the elections, have not issued any official statements either.

One exception is the United Party of Haitian Communists (PUCH), which called for the unity of all political forces. Meanwhile, the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy in Haiti has urged its followers to "remain mobilized," according to statements by the movement's leader, Marc Bazin, who was considered to be one of the four most important presidential candidates.

In a radio statement, Bazin condemned the "atrocities" that have been committed by armed groups "with total impunity" and regretted that "the Army has been in no condition to make everybody respect the law."

Commerce 'Paralyzed'

FL302116 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Excerpt] There has been a timid resumption of activity in Port-au-Prince following a new night of terror punctuated by the sound of lots of shooting, which kept the terrified residents of Port-au-Prince awake. Several radio stations which had already been fired on yesterday were shot at again last night. We have been informed that there is one dead body—a man who was shot—in the Bourdon area. Commerce is still paralyzed, but traffic is only partially paralyzed. Most public offices are open, and Port-au-Prince seems to be trying to resume normal life after a week of violence. The most murderous day of the week was yesterday with its 22 dead and 67 wounded during the balloting. [passage omitted]

Concerted Action Front States Views

FL302131 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in Creole 1700 GMT 30 Nov 37

[Text] Here is the reaction of a member of the National Concerted Action Front [FNC]. He makes the statement in the name of the FNC.

[Begin recording of FNC member] Port-au-Prince, 29 November 1987 [date as heard]. Statement by the political bureau of the FNC: The FNC, composed of the Group of 57, diverse democratic sectors, and almost all the provincial coordinating committees, salutes the Haitian people's courage and their determination to vote massively on 29 November 1987. Considering the number of people who died on the morning of 29 November, the Haitian people have given proof of this determination with their blood.

Once again, seeking the path to freedom through peaceful means, the Haitian people have fallen under the bullets of the assassins of the forces of death. On this occasion, the political bureau of the FNC addresses its condolences to the families of the victims, who fell in the battle to free Haiti. We believe that their blood will not have been shed in vain.

The FNC takes this opportunity to renew its support for the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] at this difficult moment it is going through because of the proper elections that it wanted to organize for the people. We think that it is now clear to national and international opinion that the provisional National Government Council [CNG] will never agree to free and honest elections being held in Haiti. The CNG wants elections it can control, so it can let the people who do not want (?change) to take power. That is why during the night of 28 November, together with those who do not want change, it decided to disrupt the elections. Furthermore, during the day of 29 November, it issued a heavy-handed decree saying it no longer acknowledged the members of the current CEP. That act is another coup d'etat against the people's sovereignty, which resides in the 2.3 million Haitians who were going to do their civic duty by electing a president of the Republic and deputies and senators who were going to represent them...[abrupt end recording]

We had a little problem with the communication, and it got cut off. Sorry.

We have the reaction of other leaders. Pastor Sylvio Claude, for instance, feels that the CNG should step down and that there should be intervention by a multinational force.

St Lucia

Catholic Bishops Endorse Political Union

FL292230 Bridgetown CANA in English 2138 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Nov 27, CANA—Roman Catholic bishops of the Eastern Caribbean have come out in support of the proposed unification of the Eastern Caribbean, and urged that fundamental human rights be incorporated into the constitution of the new political federation.

Their position was outlined in a statement released here this week at the end of a two-day consultation on the initiative involving six of the seven members of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

It is essential not only that fundamental human rights be incorporated into the constitution, but that adequate provision be made to ensure that their enforcement be respected and protected in all circumstances, the bishops said.

The statement signed by Archbishop Kelvin Felix of Castries, Arnold Boghaert of Roseau, Anthony Dickson of Bridgetown/Kingstown, Sydney Charles of St George's and Raymond Guilly former apostolic administrator of Castries, also outlined some of the advantages of the union.

It would offer a more effective foreign policy and representation, better external defence and security, a more economic cost of administration and less vulnerable to international pressures, the statement said.

The bishops felt the proposed union would put the Eastern Caribbean in a better position to face the economic challenges presented by technical progress, commercial exchange, the employment question, migration and other factors affecting the quality of human life.

Now is the time for full participation by the people to consider the advantages and options in order to arrive at a consensus on the form which this unity should take, the bishops said, stressing that ample time should be allowed for this.

They called on Caricom countries to give their full support to the OECS initiative. We are convinced that OECS unity can be a stimulus for greater cooperation among Caricom nations.

Trinidad and Tobago

Former Minister To Struggle for Seat

FL272315 Bridgetown CANA in English 2118 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Nov 27,CANA—Controversial former Works Minister John Humphrey on Friday said he would continue to struggle, if Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson drops him from the cabinet.

Humphrey is seen as the main target of calls for Robinson to discipline unruly ministers in the wake of his criticisms of the functioning of the ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR).

The prime minister is under pressure at the moment from many interests...if the prime minister sets out to achieve what the NAR promised, then he will re-appoint me, Humphrey told CANA. He repeated accusations that cliques within the party and the business community were attempting to remove him from office. If (Robinson) leaves me out, he will have yielded to that pressure, Humphrey said.

Robinson requested the resignation of his entire 12-member cabinet on Thursday. He is expected to announce his new-look, reorganised cabinet this weekend.

Humphrey said Robinson should dismantle the superministries he created when the government took office a year ago in the cabinet reorganisation. Humphrey said he would prefer to come back on a single housing portfolio with co-operation from separate ministries of public utilities and maintenance. Humphrey's Works Ministry had merged three former ministries from the last administration. The other superministries were the Industry, Enterprise and Tourism portfolios belonging to

Senator Ken Gordon, and External Affairs and International Marketing of Deputy NAR Leader Basdeo Panday. Humphrey said dismantling such ministries would be the sensible thing for Robinson to do. Humphrey said it would take a superhuman to deal with his former ministry.

El Salvador

Guillermo Ungo Comments on Return to Country

PA250246 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 1230 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Interview with Guillermo Manuel Ungo, FDR president and general secretary of the National Revolutionary Movement, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Yesterday we asked Dr Ruben Zamora, who also came here, what the reasons were that led him to decide to return to the country. We want to ask you the same question.

[Ungo] Good morning, and thank you for this opportunity to address the Salvadoran people on television.

El Salvador is truly facing a difficult and complex situation with a prolonged war, an undemocratic situation, and the operation of death squads. There has never been a favorable moment to actively participate in the country's political life.

However, we feel there are currently some conditions that permitted our visit, even if it is an exploratory and relatively short visit. These conditions were created, basically, because of the interest of the international community and of the Central American peoples, who want to see progress in the peace process started by the Esquipulas II agreements.

The presence of Uruguayan President Jose Maria Sanguinetti is an expression of his interest and concern, as well as of his support for the Central American countries and peoples. We therefore feel this ambivalent language the Salvadoran Government and President Duarte have used, inviting us to participate in the political process while threatening us, will have to be further explained. This ambiguous, two-faced, and ambivalent behavior must be clearly defined. This is why we are here in El Salvador. We are trying to help increase political freedom. We want to promote what we have referred to as the need for a national dialogue so the latter can, in turn, promote the other dialogue, the dialogue with the government, which is the dialogue that can produce peace agreements.

We feel a national dialogue must become the point of reference needed by all groups—not only by the politicians and the government—to voice their opinions and suggest paths for a political solution.

[Reporter] In your [words indistinct] remarks [words indistinct] Duarte (?made an offer) but at the same time made threats. We would like to know what kind of threats the president made, and what action will be taken in view of those remarks?

[Ungo] It is not only my opinion but that of many observers, analysts, and politicians from other countries. President Duarte's most recent statements—made 2 days ago, I believe—were, first, irresponsible and not fitting for a president. Second, Those remarks have an ultrarightist sense, content, and effect. Those actions are not in line with those of a leader who claims to be progressive. That was an invitation to death squads guaranteeing, once more, their impunity. Duarte extended this invitation when he said any attack on or harm to us would be the result of an action by the FMLN, in other words, the Salvadoran left.

We think that is the typical approach of the ultrarightists. This is true not only in El Salvador but everywhere in the world. There is a trend to blame the left for everything. I remember—I have a good memory—that is what Duarte did when Msgr Romero was killed, and now everyone knows about it.

[Reporter] A few days before Msgr Romero was killed President Duarte made statements similar to those he is making today?

[Ungo] No. After Romero's murder I said Duarte probably will say the left killed Romero, without having any evidence to prove it. This is the same way it was said that the deaths of the 60,000 people killed in El Salvador were crimes committed by the left wing. However, that is collective suicide. That is an irrational position, just like most ultrarightist positions.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] attack on the house of Dr Rengio Roldan, could this mark the beginning of a repressive campaign against him or something similar?

[Ungo] This does not mark a beginning, because this is what we have been experiencing in El Salvador for more than 7 years. Despite the efforts made to correct flaws through the 1979 coup d'etat staged by young military officers, these flaws have increased. We know the bodies of two youths, who had been brutally murdered, were found recently. They had the letters FDR written on their bodies. In addition, the leader of the Human Rights Commission was murdered a few days ago.

These are ominous signs and warnings that aim to establish, increase, and develop terror. This is one of the reasons for our visit: to realize, through specific situations, attitudes, and behaviors, that we can agree on many things in a crisis situation. We can also disagree on many other things, but this must be done through the political instruments—through dialogue, discussion, and civilized, democratic debate.

[Reporter] However, since Roldan is so close to you and since his house was attacked, do you not think the next ones on the list would be Dr Zamora and yourself?

[Ungo] Well, we have always been close to one another. Fortunately, nothing regrettable has happened. President Sanguinetti has already arrived here. Another Latin American president will come soon. Numerous international delegates are also present, precisely to help us Salvadorans develop our political process. I think it would be extremely costly. It would be an adventure; it would become a political boomerang for whomever attempted it. Let us keep in mind that this kind of adventure has provoked situations entirely different from those that the adventurers originally had in mind. Remember the murder of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro in Nicaragua, which toppled the Somoza family dictatorship in Nicaragua.

[Reporter] However, Zamora said yesterday that he was sure the leftists or the FMLN would not attempt any attacks but that he was not sure about the death squads. Do you share this insecurity and fear?

[Ungo] Well, not exactly. I think the FMLN has clearly expressed support for our presence in the country. It sounds logical to us. The idea is to hold a broader dialogue, expand the opening, seek a greater convergence with national and popular sectors. I do not understand why the leftists or the FMLN feel uneasy. We know peace, democracy, and social justice have always had minority yet very powerful enemies.

[Reporter] We learned yesterday that you have brought with you a dialogue proposal—which you handed over to Archbishop Rivera y Damas—to resume talks in Mexico on 5 December. Can you tell us more about this proposal, how has it been drafted, some details?

[Ungo] The dialogue has been suspended. When the FMLN itself made this decision...

[Reporter, interrupting] Then it was the FMLN, because there was...

[Ungo, interrupting] It was an FMLN decision. It is well known and temporary. This decision was made as a result of the murder of Herbert Anaya, coordinator of the Human Rights Commission, as a form of pressure on the government to accept a dialogue on the subject of democratization, which is a political commitment signed by President Duarte in Guatemala; hence this temporary suspension. We disagreed with this decision, although we thought it necessary to clarify that the government's position regarding dialogue gave the impression that the government was trying to turn it into a game of appearances, as happened in Caracas.

This was confirmed to some extent by Duarte's speech on 5 November. In this speech he virtually evaded the accords he signed. Duarte said everything has been done, that he complied with this or that. Apparently, he is unwilling to do more. This is why what I have just seen on television looks so interesting to me. Canal Doce broadcast Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti's remarks saying that this is a beginning but that much remains to be done to foster and develop the principles expounded in Esquipulas II which relate to the continuation of the dialogue in El Salvador. We said this suspension of the dialogue should be made as short as possible. We are happy to have agreed with the FMLN in making this proposal, which we still have not handed over to the archbishop because we have not yet seen him. We expect to, however, so that he can officially convey it to the government.

[Reporter] Can you tell us something about this proposal?

[Ungo] No. Suffice it to say that it deals with what the two sides have agreed upon. The two sides agreed to form two commissions, one to deal with the cease-fire process, the other to deal with the rest of the aspects included in Esquipulas II. The two sides complied with the designation of our delegates. The commissions have been formed; now they have to function. Their latest activity occurred in Caracas. There was an agreement to meet in Mexico, but that was suspended. We propose that these commissions continue to operate. I think this constitutes a duty, a requirement of the government, particularly because of the failure of the National Reconciliation Commission, which operates very poorly because of the resignation of all the political party representatives. This indicates that the government's efforts are minimal. They must be improved to continue the Esquipulas II process. Duarte is supposed to be more familiar with the contents and development of Esquipulas II than we. This is why during the latest foreign ministers meeting in San Jose at the end of October—2 or 3 weeks ago—the application of simultaneity and the meeting of the stipulated deadlines were clearly defined. During the meeting the difference between the cease-fire process and other actions was also established. Some of these actions require less time, while others, such as the cease-fire, require a protracted process. Put simply, I have not seen consistency. Not even the Reconciliation Commission members were familiar with the government's position regarding the cease-fire. We were also unfamiliar with this position because they never reported it to us during the meeting we held at the nuncio's office. The government announced a surprise unilateral cease-fire. Duarte does not seek an accord. He says there is no accord. However, he is not complying with Esquipulas II, which deals with a concerted cease-fire process. This is not easy, but it is the only way out.

[Reporter] This apparently has to do more with a whim of Duarte's rather than with a reasonable position. It seems illogical not to advise his cabinet and everybody about the instructions to apply a specific policy. Suddenly, as you mentioned, the government makes a unilateral announcement, and things like that.

Doctor, do you not think that the FMLN's surprising announcement of a unilateral cease-fire, which will end on 30 November, is the same thing? If each side decides

to declare a cease-fire for 15 days, or more or less, then why not reach an agreement on this? The fighters and the people, themselves, would then enjoy the benefits of such a decision.

[Ungo] Yes, but we must establish the differences. This is a much more modest cease-fire; it is a political decision to provide the most appropriate atmosphere for a dialogue—meaning there should be no fighting—while the FDR, MNR [National Revolutionary Movement], and MPSC [Social Christian People's Movement] leaders are in San Salvador. I believe this decision was adopted within a more modest and limited framework. However, a real cease-fire, not a [words indistinct] cease-fire, is certainly necessary to end hostilities, meaning to end the war. This must be part of the other proposals, but we... [changes thought] the Salvadoran Government, itself, has advocated a simultaneous implementation. Therefore, all the topics should be simultaneously discussed to attain some progress.

[Reporter] Or else there will be no cease-fire.

[Ungo] Or else there will be no cease-fire, because the cease-fire in itself means to end hostilities, and the end of hostilities will only be attained if we resolve the main problems which caused the conflict.

[Reporter] How much time...

[Ungo, interrupting] At least everyone should be willing to resolve those problems.

[Reporter] How much time do you think is necessary for a dialogue between the FMLN-FDR and the government to attain an agreement?

[Ungo] Let us be realistic. The process will not be easy in El Salvador, and it might require some time. I do not think it should take so long, but it will certainly involve months, perhaps several months. I think we can talk in terms of months instead of years. Even if the peace process takes 1 to 2 years... [changes thought] We think it is better to spend 1 to 2 years of negotiations to attain peace than to extend the war, which causes destruction and death. However, we must also understand that there is another factor involved, and it is not specified in the Esquipulas II agreements.

[Reporter] Which one?

[Ungo] The external factor, the main factor behind such a long war. I believe the Salvadoran people are tired of the war and want to stop it.

[Reporter] Do you think the U.S. role in the region is the real reason the war has lasted for so long in your country?

[Ungo] I think we all know that the military, political, and economic decisions are mainly made at the White House in Washington.

[Reporter] Does the Soviet Union intervene too?

[Ungo] Look, I think the Soviet Union is closer to the moon than to El Salvador. The geopolitical crisis in Central America has been basically caused by the United States. El Salvador's case is not like Nicaragua's case. Nicaragua's case does involve a Soviet presence because of U.S. policy. The Soviet Union provides Nicaragua's oil, or else the nation dies. We can see the contradictions of Reagan's policy. He does not want to enforce an economic boycott against the racist regime in South Africa, but he does enforce an economic boycott against the Nicaraguan people [words indistinct]. Consequently, Nicaragua must get its oil and weapons from the socialist bloc, mainly from the Soviet Union. This, as I said, was caused because [words indistinct] create the conditions to attain this. However, this cannot be implemented in El Salvador. The Soviet Union is really far away and I am sure it would not want to get involved in the problems of a geopolitical area where it does not have vital interests. However, I am sure that the Soviet Union will be happy if the United States suffers a political defeat in any country under U.S. control. The United States meddles more in geopolitical areas under Soviet control than vice versa. The U.S. presence in Afghanistan and Poland is greater than that of the Soviet Union in Latin and Central America—except Cuba. Consequently, the Soviet Union's presence is not very important.

Anyway, this is one of the topics on which all the national sectors have achieved a consensus. In other words, this conflict has been basically the result of internal causes and should be resolved by the Salvadorans for the Salvadorans. Even Engineer Duarte, himself, said during the first meeting at La Palma that we must nationalize the conflict. Now he contradicts himself, because he wants to hold the dialogue outside of El Salvador; we want to hold it in El Salvador.

[Reporter] Doctor, you have mentioned that the Nicaraguans could not survive without the Soviets, but many believe that the Salvadoran people could not survive without the U.S. loans, aid, and everything else. How could we be more independent and sovereign if we are a poor and underdeveloped country?

[Ungo] I believe that the country's growth and development resemble the people's growth and development. We need a series of combined efforts to attain our growth and development. We will undoubtedly fail to achieve this on our own. We are a country with very little chance of attaining absolute sovereignty. Argentina has a greater possibility of attaining that in South America.

First of all, we need Central American integration; if the Central Americans do not unite we will have slim possibilities of attaining independent development. Second, and this is quite evident, we need a government and politics that include every sector's participation. A minority sector cannot be in charge of the government,

no matter how strong it may be, because it will not be able to develop a national plan. This was the greatest error of the Christian Democratic Party in El Salvador, and it has become a sectarian and corrupt party that only seeks personal and party benefits. The party is now isolated and weak and offers no real alternative to the people. In addition to the Salvadoran sectors' efforts, we need international solidarity [words indistinct] the superpowers. This includes the United States, which is our real neighbor on all sides.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] solidarity, because the United States reasserts that it is our greatest ally and will never let us down.

[Ungo] They offer us their hand, but that hand becomes a fist whenever they want. Therefore, since we need close relations with the United States we have [words indistinct]. We also need international relations and the solidarity of—above all—the Western world. I believe we can offer important contributions. I believe that the presence of and support from many political forces—some of whom are represented in the government and some of whom are not, though they are equally important and powerful—offer us the possibility of attaining a pluralistic life. Therefore, we will not have to depend on a single resource and we will be able to broaden our possibilities for internal development. I believe that Europe has concentrated its efforts in Central America in recent years and has attained positive results. I discussed this with a European foreign minister and said that $100 million from Europe—which is not much—produces more than $500 million from the United States.

[Question indistinct]

[Ungo] [Words indistinct] strategic plans to defend Washington's interests, not El Salvador's interests or Central America's interests.

[Reporter] Doctor, returning to the issues we discussed at the beginning of the interview, especially the dialogue issue, why is it that several meetings have been held with the government, yet no solutions have been achieved? In short, why have the previous talks failed?

[Ungo] In truth, more wishful thinking has been reported than have facts regarding a split between the FDR and FMLN. First of all, we must agree that this is an alliance, not a unity. Engineer Duarte says an alliance is indivisible, but this is an organic unity because each of our organizations has its own identity, its own decisionmaking bodies. We are a political, not a military organization. We have never been a military organization. On the contrary, despite what Dr Calderon says and thinks about us, we do not have the military instruments possessed by other organizations, which have death squads. However, on certain political issues our views are quite similar.

[Reporter] With the FMLN or with the [words indistinct]?

[Ungo] With the FMLN with regard to paths to political solutions. This is why we have presented different initiatives, the 18-point initiative to decrease the effects of the war, the 6-point initiative with the elements or ingredients for achieving an agenda or a final solution, and opening doors to discuss, perfect, and correct them. Meanwhile, I believe that because the government's situation is the result of its own internal divisions, because of its positions at variance with the Armed Forces, the civilian sector, the different factors of power, the Reagan administration, etc., it has never held a clear position. The government will probably present surrender as a solution, in the guise of amnesty. Is this for real? This is only done when one is losing a war.

[Reporter] The FMLN is [words indistinct].

[Ungo] No one is losing at this moment, in immediate terms.

[Reporter] Dr Zamora is reported to have said that there are no winners or losers, only fighters.

[Ungo] At this time there are some who say there is a standstill. I do not believe this. I believe there is a trend toward an increasing political-military deterioration within the government. However, in any case, neither the government nor the other side is on the verge of surrender.

[Reporter] Doctor, I have heard off-camera statements to the effect that this war is advantageous to the FMLN and to the government, too, taking into account that the FMLN-FDR... [changes thought] For example, it is said that when the Armed Forces are closing in on the guerrillas a sudden order is usually issued for withdrawal because in reality the guerrillas could destroy the Armed Forces in 2 or 3 months, and it would be inconvenient to maintain...

[Ungo, interrupting] I really do not believe that. Of course there are people who benefit from the war. However, in general terms I believe there are more important things at stake. General Blandon himself said once that (?the war) is more political than military. Therefore, an indefinite prolongation of the war would not benefit either side because people suffer in the war, and the side that loses the most people loses the war. Therefore, I urge at least the lucid and thinking sectors on both sides to seek solutions.

[Reporter] For El Salvador's good.

[Ungo] The problem is that when one is not allowed to make proposals other than a surrender—which is not a solution at all—the only other way out is through negotiation. We have never known the government's position

regarding negotiation. At the last meeting at the apostolic nunciature it seemed as if some progress had been made when the government sector said it was not seeking surrender. I still believe the meetings should have been postponed for a while because we did not know exactly what they were asking for. Forgiving and forgetting are not solutions; they should be the results of a solution. In politics forgiving and forgetting do not resolve problems.

The gospels have existed for 20 centuries and they have not resolved this problem because in politics the factors are different: power, vested interests, and so on. Therefore, we should seek solutions in stages that will gradually lead to an understanding between the two sides, as we did at the first dialogue in La Palma. At that time, however, the government pressured us. We made proposals but the government refused to even discuss them. [passage indistinct]

[Reporter] For example, Doctor; mention a few cases.

[Ungo] We offered to discuss a few aspects regarding the so-called humanization of the war and ways to decrease the effects of the war on the civilian population, for example by stopping air raids, stopping long-range artillery shelling, stopping economic sabotage; there were also transportation stoppages. This filled the demand for a significant contribution on our part, and yet they refused to discuss them. Later the government established those same positions unilaterally, as a unilateral cease-fire. If they did not want to discuss them, why state them unilaterally? So that they would not be accepted and to give the impression that they made those suggestions. But they are not accepted because they have not been agreed upon and they therefore will not be fulfilled.

I believe some progress has been made, and this may lead to an agreement at our next meeting and dialogue. It would be very difficult for the government to reverse its position now because it has already stated the issues; it therefore should be willing to discuss them. I believe this is one step that would lead to other steps, allowing us to make progress. In this case it is not a matter of a 100-meter race to see who makes it in 10 seconds.

[Reporter] What is the president's intention with this type of maneuver, because the way you explain it, it is a maneuver in which you make the proposal, they refuse it, and then they present it as their own. What is their intention?

[Ungo] In my opinion it is an intention that will not be achieved in order to give the impression that the government has already fulfilled Esquipulas II, and for the government to remain as it is, because it does not have the ability or political will to reach certain agreements and make certain concessions in exchange [words indistinct] for giving and taking, granting and receiving. I believe the government cannot do this because Esquipulas II is working and will continue working on preestablished steps, and if it does not [words indistinct] will come across as the government least capable and willing to fulfill a commitment it has signed. I believe this visit by President Sanguinetti, who was very courteous and cordial, was really a form of political pressure to tell this government: Gentlemen, we are observing you and we are willing to help you do your part, but do your part.

[Reporter] What does the FMLN-FDR say about the visit?

[Ungo] Well, we believe it is important. We...

[Reporter, interrupting] Have you sent a message to the president?

[Ungo] We did not sign the Esquipulas II agreements, but the agreements refer to us. The agreements imply that no solution is possible without us.

[Reporter] That is why I asked...

[Ungo, interrupting] We are willing to help, but we do not have to assume commitments that we have not signed; but we have assumed pledges before the people. We pledged to attain progress in the peace process, so we strive to fulfill that pledge. The Esquipulas II agreements state that no military and material support should be given to armed rebel forces, and President Duarte wants us to abide by this; but this is bribery. We are not armed or unarmed; we have never been unarmed... [corrects himself] armed to be unarmed. [sentence as heard] Unarmed refers to Eden Pastora, who had weapons and now has a fishing hook and is fishing in Costa Rica.

[Reporter] But this is applicable to the FMLN.

[Ungo] It is applicable to the FMLN. Well, if this is only applicable to the FMLN, then the Salvadoran Government cannot use the Esquipulas II agreements except as an instrument for war and to attain a military victory. The government wants to attain a political victory at the negotiating table, because it cannot attain this victory in the streets or on the battlefield.

[Question indistinct]

[Ungo] No, because this was recently added [words indistinct] other issues from Contadora. Esquipulas cannot be conceived without Contadora, which precedes and complements it, as stated in Esquipulas. The document talks about the security issues that must be agreed upon by the governments. The security issues mean foreign advisers, and we know there are foreign advisers here—not only in Nicaragua—and military bases, military maneuvers, and the reduction of weapon inventories. Consequently, they must not only cancel or prevent the military and logistical support to rebels forces such as the ones in El Salvador or irregular forces such as the contras, they must also reduce weapon inventories.

[Reporter] Is this stated in the Contadora agreement or in the Esquipulas II agreements?

[Ungo] This is stated in the Contadora agreement and reasserted in the Esquipulas II agreements. The topic was also discussed during the last foreign ministers meeting in Costa Rica, and deadlines were established to include that topic on the agenda. This way it becomes part of the negotiation, or else it will be evaded. The country's debt continues to increase and the country continues to get more weapons. What for? To kill more Salvadorans. Reagan (?does not care about the country). President Reagan cares little about the Salvadorans, but the Salvadorans do care about each other. We will be able to sit down at the negotiating table and seek a negotiated political solution after each side decreases or cancels the military-logistical support.

[Reporter] When you refer to a reduction in weapon inventories, do you specifically refer to the FMLN and the Salvadoran Government?

[Ungo] Yes, of course.

[Reporter] Do you think it is possible that the FMLN members will say at a given moment: Yes, we will—I do not know—destroy these rifles? Also, if a weapons shipment arrives, will they say: No, we do not want it?

[Ungo] Well, we began to discuss this issue with the FMLN several years ago. I remember that I met with Senator Edward Kennedy in Washington 4 to 5 years ago and he mentioned the same thing. We began to discuss the issue with the FMLN, and we have presented several proposals on various occasions. We discussed all types of moratoriums, logistical support, international supervision, etc.

[Reporter] Why has nothing been achieved, Doctor?

[Ungo] Because the government, above all the U.S. Government, does not want to. They know that we would then negotiate a Salvadoran solution, and this is inconvenient for Washington.

[Reporter] Doctor, what about President Daniel Ortega's argument that it is necessary to hold a dialogue with the U.S. Government and not with the opposition? Would you have to hold a dialogue with the U.S. Government and not with President Duarte in this case?

[Ungo] Well, there are various positions on this and we have stated ours. The Salvadoran Government itself must hold a dialogue with the U.S. Government—but not by kissing the U.S. flag. That is the most ignominious submission. [Words indistinct] everyone must tell the United States that it should give us the opportunity to exert our autonomy and independence. I really think that a solution is possible, even though different views are defended in many ways, including that of war. A consensus is always possible, and I think that this time we have discovered several points on which an agreement is possible—even though we are fighting against each other. I think that the nation knows this government cannot offer an alternative to attain a solution.

[Reporter] Do you...

[Ungo, interrupting] Even the PCN [National Conciliation Party] proposed the creation of a government—what is it called?

[Reporter] National Unity?

[Ungo] National Unity or something like that. Everyone has proposed the same thing.

[Reporter] Doctor, now that you mention the PCN, we heard that the opposition had approached you. Was anything achieved? Why did [words indistinct]?

[Ungo] Well, we do not seek strategic alliances or unity with other organizations. The PCN simply wants to defend its interests and to adopt a social democratic position, but if it does that [laughs] I think it will feel uncomfortable. I think that happens when you put on a suit and it looks like a costume. Anyway, we believe that a consensus is possible and that we should seek a consensus. We know that an agreement is possible on many things and we will thus attain a national solution. No political group in the country is self-sufficient.

[Reporter] Doctor...

[Ungo, interrupting] I believe this is an advantage because it guarantees the social and sociological conditions needed to attain pluralism. Political pluralism is possible when every sector exerts itself and thus there is no need to seek political hegemony. Therefore, it is possible to build a popular hegemony through the efforts exerted by everyone, and we call this pluralism.

[Reporter] Doctor, going back to the subject of the government's and your own position, I was very surprised to hear you say that there are more points on which you have attained consensus than points on which your opinions differ. I say this because the Salvadorans constantly hear the government and certain political groups refer to the FMLN-FDR as those terrorists, communists, and Marxists-Leninists. It is said that if a lie is repeated 100 times it becomes a truth, and perhaps that is what the people think about you. If anyone mentions Ungo, Zamora, Handal, or whoever, the people say: You are communists and terrorists. Are you really like this? Do you really deserve that description, or are you really quite different from the image that has been created about you in the country?

[Ungo] Well, we are Salvadorans and this makes us look very much the same. Second, together we have experienced many things during our time spent out of the country. We have an understanding that springs from the

early seventies—a great accumulated experience in the sense of knowing that we cannot struggle alone, that we need to merge and that merging should be converted into multiplication, into exponential growth. I believe this places us ahead of other countries in [words indistinct] social advances, in looking for solutions. Of course, the same war situation leads to polarization of forces, but that is, basically, circumstantial in the sense that we can find points of agreement.

Furthermore, the political process has instructed us. I believe that we all have learned and are better politicians today than in the past. In this sense, we have had to struggle in very adverse, very difficult situations, where creativity of all sorts had to develop. This is the reason for my optimism. For example, in this meeting, in this dialogue [words indistinct] we have nevertheless advanced and we are able to hold a dialogue, we can talk, and we can discuss certain points and look for agreements. In tonight's meeting the results were modest and sparse. People truly had higher expectations and had the right to have them. However, we did discover points of agreement. We agreed on different things, but we agreed at least on the need to continue dialogue; on the need for mechanisms, instruments, and objectives to continue the dialogue, such as through the two commissions. This teaches us that we have to continue advancing; sometimes we can take short steps and sometimes we can take more steps, longer ones.

[Reporter] Doctor, you spoke about a political experience. Do you know President Duarte personally? We understand you have a close family friendship with him. Does this not allow for getting closer to dialogue because you are close family friends? [laughs]

[Ungo] Not so close as to bring light.

[Reporter] [laughs] Does it not make matters easier?

[Ungo] Well, yes it does [words indistinct]. On a personal level we really do not have any enmity. We have a political rivalry and enmity which has developed during the last 7 years. It could make things easier, but I believe that in these matters personal relationships are of little importance. More than anything people, and leaders in particular, have responsibilities. It is more a matter of social and political processes, collectivities, and political forces. This is why I have no discrepancy with him. He is a person [words indistinct] God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost at the same time. [reporter laughs] [Words indistinct] savior in any country.

[Reporter] Doctor, one last question. Time flies; it has surely done so in this interview, but I would like to ask you one final question for the Salvadorans. As I had told you previously, the belief exists that if your organization gets to power it will bring communism, which will be the end of us. I would like to ask you, if you do get to power what type of government will you install? I ask this to remove people's doubts.

[Ungo] First, I am a democratic socialist. My party is not marked with a Marxist-Leninist sign. Thus, we cannot propose communism. Second, I believe that in politics things are done according to realities and possibilities and not according to one's wishes. As I have said, we have all learned more, and we know there are things which cannot be done now and that there are others which cannot be done tomorrow. Socialism of one kind or another cannot be established by decree. It is a process where the people themselves have to be the principal actors. We currently have a series of needs which require a historic phase of great effort and a great collective agreement for ideologies to be kept individually, but these ideologies must not be determinant factors. The determinant factors are the national political realities, the demands of the country, and the demands to achieve peace and democracy. Thus, I would say that we are not advocating the physical disappearance of the oligarchy. What we want is a government of majorities and not minorities. We continue to support what we have supported since 1982, when we had UNO [National Union of Opposition]. We need a government which makes reforms, structural reforms which are not completed in a year or in a day. Fundamentally, we need a national government and a government with an anti-oligarchy program.

[Question indistinct]

[Ungo] Logically, if oligarchy is a political phenomenon of minorities the majority should agree [with the type of government we propose].

[Reporter] This solution has only been presented by your organization.

[Ungo] I believe we have sufficient ingredients to create a menu where we do not have to be the only ones in the kitchen [words indistinct] more participation.

[Reporter] Are you against free enterprise or private enterprise, as is constantly being said?

[Ungo] Well, my party is clear when it advocates combining three types of property: private property, social property, and government property. The party also believes social property should gradually become the most important one. We believe that in our country, mainly because of the great population density, private property has a predominant role in certain areas, in industry, for example. Our program does not advocate socialism. The joint program of the different socialist and nonsocialist forces of the FDR and the FMLN do not advocate socialism. In this sense, then, private property continues to be fundamental. In El Salvador there are no large foreign economic interests as in other places; we have them but they are neither determinant nor predominant. That is why it is unfortunate that this country is becoming denationalized with this government. Conditions in El Salvador allowed for much more independent development than in other countries.

[Reporter] Well, Doctor, we want to thank you for giving us today's interview, and we hope to have you here again. We do not know how long you are staying. We know it depends on conditions within the country. If there is a spare moment, however, we hope to have you here with us again.

[Ungo] Well, I thank you for this opportunity, and I am also interested and want to be with you again.

Departs After Opposition Pact

PA300140 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2149 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] San Salvador, 29 Nov (DPA)—FDR President Guillermo Manuel Ungo departed San Salvador this afternoon after reaching an agreement with three opposition parties to seek a negotiated political solution to the war in El Salvador.

Ungo traveled to Mexico accompanied by Hector Oqueli and Hugo Navarrete, who are also leaders of the insurgency's political wing and members of the international committee that stayed with him during his week-long visit in the country following 7 years of exile.

FDR Vice President Ruben Zamora will also leave in a few days, according to what was said at a news conference at which it was also revealed that a second return would take place at the beginning of 1988 to continue the process of seeking peace with social justice and independence.

Before leaving, at a theater in San Salvador the establishment of the "democratic merger" was publicly proclaimed: an alliance between the National Revolutionary Movement (MNR), the Social Christian People's Movement (MPSC), FDR members, and the Social Democratic Party (PSD), led by Mario Reni Roldan.

These political parties, despite their legal registration, agreed that there is no true process of democracy in the country and that the solution to the more than 7-year-long conflict should lead to a government in which all sectors partake, following which it would be suitable to hold general elections.

Ungo stated that El Salvador has a right-wing government for the right wing and an artificial existence supported by U.S. military and economic aid, which grew from $30 million in 1980 to more than $3 billion in 1987.

Zamora said in his first reference to the "Zona Rosa massacre" that the Salvadoran Government's submission is even seen in the case of the amnesty, in which the freedom of some political prisoners is denied because deaths of U.S. citizens were involved. Zamora said: It becomes necessary to rescue national sovereignty and to lead the country toward a real independence based on nonalignment with either of the superpowers—the United States or the USSR.

Regarding the "Esquipulas II" regional peace plan, Zamora commented that it is very positive, that through it the Central Americans can stand on their own two feet and take action jointly when faced with interference from outside the region.

The top FDR leadership worked hard with labor and political organizations that oppose the government and with others that side with the government, to find points of agreement on the country's basic problems and their possible solutions.

On Sunday, Ungo said that through the mediation of an embassy a meeting took place with U.S. Ambassador Edwin G. Corr, but that, naturally, national problems were seen from a different perspective.

At a public event attended by more than 500 people who rejected U.S. intervention and backed the alliance, it was said that they took President Napoleon Duarte's word that guarantees will be given to those who worked with the FDR leaders and so that those leaders may return and take part in a democratic process.

Ruben Zamora Stresses Need for Consensus

PA280334 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Nov 87

[Interview with Dr Ruben Zamora, secretary of the Social Christian People's Movement (MPSC) and FDR vice president, by unidentified reporter at the Canal Doce Television studios in San Salvador—live]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Good morning. We are glad to have you here.

[Zamora] Good morning.

[Reporter] We were all surprised when you said: I am going back to El Salvador. You are now in the country with us. What made you decide to return to the country?

[Zamora] This has been the result of a 2-year process within our organization, the MPSC. During the party's congress in 1985 we concluded that it was necessary to be in the country and engage in political work to seek a political solution in El Salvador. We had to seek a consensus among all the different political and social groups and thus create the basis, at a national and domestic level, for a solution among Salvadorans.

[Reporter] Doctor, many believe your return, as well as Dr Guillermo Ungo's, is another guerrilla strategy to broaden their political front. What do you say about this?

[Zamora] Look, two things are being said about our return. Some say we came on instructions from the FMLN, and others say we cannot be here because we are under the FMLN's orders. Both versions are false.

[Reporter] Who gives the orders? You or they?

[Zamora] It depends. If it refers to political matters... [changes thought] In this case the decision to return to the country and develop our political work was made by the political parties comprising the FDR. We explained this to the FMLN and everyone else, just as we are explaining it here, and they accepted it. That is why I say the decision was ours. There are other types of decisions, for example military decisions, that are made by the FMLN because they are within the FMLN's jurisdiction. Whenever they make military decisions and notify us about them we tell them whether we agree or not, but it is still a military issue.

[Reporter] We now go to the other extreme, Doctor. You say you are united, but there are reports about deep rifts between you. It is said your arrival is the result of those rifts between the FMLN and the FDR.

[Zamora] That is not true, either, and I will explain why. Look, we have a political alliance based on an agreement. The FMLN agrees this country needs a political solution to the conflict. They also agree the Salvadorans need to reach a broad national consensus to find a political solution. This will provide the basis for working together with other groups and for finding a political solution. Consequently, we have an alliance, and this alliance is not made by one party alone. If a party is troubled by different views or guidelines, then there is a rift in the party. For example, if one party member wants to be the presidential candidate and if another member also wants to be a presidential candidate, then there is a rift in the party. If we have an alliance, however, it means different sectors have reached a consensus about something, even though they disagree about other things. We have an alliance, and an alliance implies agreement on certain things and disagreement on other things.

[Reporter] Can we talk about this? In what areas have the FMLN and FDR reached a consensus, and in what areas do they differ?

[Zamora] I will give you an example. We have reached a consensus on the need to find a political solution, participate in the dialogue, achieve a broad national consensus without discrimination, and thus have peace with justice. Those are the basic things for me. We have agreed that our country should make its own decisions without depending on other countries; otherwise we will not make progress. I would say we have reached a consensus on the basic things, but we have disagreements about other things. I will give you a specific case: We were scheduled to meet with the government in Mexico City, but following the murder of the Human Rights Commission leader the FMLN believed we could not possibly sit down and talk with the government given the terrible nature of that murder.

[Reporter] But why?

[Zamora] They told us: This is terrible! They have just killed the president of the Human Rights Commission! How can we possibly sit down and talk with them under those conditions? We, the FDR, understand this, and we think it is a terrible thing. We believe his murder is a terrible thing, but we see it from the political view. We said: We believe Jose Napoleon Duarte's government is simply looking for an excuse to suspend the dialogue, and we should not give them an excuse.

[Reporter] Excuse me, Doctor, do you believe the government is responsible for Herbert Anaya's murder?

[Zamora] No, no. I do not want to imply that. I said Napoleon Duarte's government was looking for an excuse to suspend the dialogue. If we were to refuse to sit down and talk then we would be providing an excuse. This is, therefore, a political difference. Do you understand? Those differences of views are obviously respected in every alliance. From 1970 through 1979 we comprised the National Opposition Alliance with the MNR [National Revolutionary Movement], the Christian Democratic Party, and the UDN [National Democratic Union], three different parties that reached a consensus on certain things. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Do you think it is possible to unite groups that have such different ideas, such as the FMLN and ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance]? Is it possible to reach a consensus under such circumstances?

[Zamora] That is why we are proposing a consensus. If we were seeking an ideological consensus I would say that obviously it is not possible. An ideological consensus is not possible between ARENA and our group. We are different. However, why not propose it under other terms? For example, we have a consensus regarding the economy. How can we resolve the problem of 70-percent unemployment in our country?

[Reporter] That is an ideological consensus anyhow, even if it concerns economic issues.

[Zamora] Yes, if you consider it from a very strict ideological viewpoint. Regarding unemployment, we could handle the situation as follows: If we were to say that all enterprises should be nationalized, then there is no possibility we could reach a consensus. Why? Because here there is free enterprise. We must find some sort of formula. We must say, for example, that we must create a program through which the state would stimulate, for example, production to create employment. The government could provide incentives for businesses that create jobs. [passage omitted]

Peru's Garcia Arrives; Greeted by Duarte

PA302241 [Editorial Report] San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish at 1800 GMT on 30 November broadcasts a 5-minute report on the arrival of Peruvian President Alan Garcia in El Salvador.

The announcer states that President Garcia arrived in El Salvador at 0930 today and was met at the airport by Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte and several members of the Salvadoran cabinet.

A brief recording of President Duarte's welcoming statements follows. President Duarte says that to attain peace, everyone must be committed to it. Duarte adds: "I can assure you here before all local, Peruvian, and international media that we Salvadorans have taken the fulfillment of each and every one of the obligations acquired in Esquipulas II seriously. For that reason, we have run all risks and made all possible decisions, not to simply interpret each of the conceptual points of Esquipulas II in a leisurely manner, but to interpret them in depth as should be done, without biases of any kind."

The report continues with a brief recording of the statements made by President Alan Garcia upon his arrival in San Salvador. Garcia says that the eight Latin American presidents met in Mexico primarily because they knew that without peace and democracy in Central America the continent would not have guarantees for its future. President Garcia states: "Central America and El Salvador have been permanently foremost in our consciences because we know that without that concern our meeting and our understanding of collective responsibility would not have come about. Therefore, we have very little to verify or teach in this land. Instead, we have much to learn. We have to learn the great patience and courage that you have at this moment. You are on the sure road to peace and strengthening your democracies."

The announcer ends the report by stating that this is the first time President Garcia has visited El Salvador since he became president.

Honduras

Draft Amnesty Decree Sent to Congress

PA301344 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1230 GMT 26 Nov 87

["Text" of draft amnesty decree presented "last night" to the National Congress by the National Reconciliation Commission; date not given]

[Text] Decree No [to be determined]

The National Congress

Whereas the Constitution of the Republic states that human beings are the supreme goal of society and that the state guarantees individual freedom and safety to Hondurans and foreigners residing in the country;

Whereas [words indistinct] of a developing country some adverse socioeconomic conditions, especially in the agricultural field, have led Honduran peasants to participate in actions which, although classified as common crimes, are not motivated by a dangerous nature or the intent to break the law or the criminal code, but rather by their respectable aspiration to upgrade living conditions for themselves and their children;

Whereas the adoption of urgent measures to ensure harmony among Hondurans by guaranteeing them full exercise of constitutional rights is in the national interest;

Whereas the National Congress, under Article No 205, point 16, of the Constitution of the Republic is empowered to grant amnesty for political crimes and related common crimes and because it is advisable that it fully exercise this power to strengthen peace and promote the harmonious coexistence of the Honduran family;

For these reasons, the National Congress decrees:

Article 1: To grant broad and unconditional amnesty to all people who have been sentenced, prosecuted, detained, or subjected to proceedings in any court throughout the Republic for political or related common crimes specified in Chapters 6 through 9, inclusive, under Title 12, Crimes Against the State's Internal Security, of the Penal Code that were committed before the date of the current decree.

Article 2: To order that all inmates who benefit from the foregoing article and who are serving sentences in national jails be immediately released.

Article 3: Proceedings that are under way or filed in the Republic's courts relating to the crimes mentioned in the Article 1 will be rendered null and void. The corresponding definitive proceeding dismissals must be immediately issued.

Article 4: The amnesty cited in Article 1 and in the conditions stipulated in Articles 2 and 3 of this decree will include all the peasants who have been sentenced, prosecuted, detained, or subjected to proceedings in any court throughout the Republic for participation in collective actions promoted by groups affiliated with peasant organizations and who have violated Article 3, point 3, of Decree No 33 issued by the National Congress on 29 April 1982, and Article 335, point 6, of the Penal Code, with the exception of murder or voluntary manslaughter.

Article 5: Foreigners who receive the benefit of this decree must leave Honduran territory for a country of their choosing within the period established for this purpose by the General Directorate of Population and Immigration Policy.

Article 6: This decree will go into effect as soon as it is published in the official gazette.

Nicaragua

Dominican Republic Site for Contra Mediation

PA302256 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2145 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] We have a report with a Managua dateline that says the Episcopal Conference of Nicaragua today authorized Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo to act as mediator between the government and the contras to secure a negotiated cease-fire.

This is an international news dispatch. Cardinal Obando y Bravo, official spokesman for the Episcopal Conference of Nicaragua, said the following at the conclusion of a special meeting called to decide whether or not the prelate should be authorized to act as mediator: The Episcopal Conference of Nicaragua approves of my acting as mediator between the government and the contras.

He said the meeting will take place this week in the Dominican Republic. Costa Rican President Oscar Arias has told Cardinal Obando y Bravo that Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega is opposed to the meeting taking place in Central America because it would violate the Guatemala agreement signed on 7 August by the region's presidents. Obando y Bravo also said that a Nicaraguan Government delegation headed by Nicaraguan Army Major Ricardo Wheelock, chief of military intelligence, may also be going to the meeting with the contras in the Dominican Republic.

Ortega Comments on Canadian Role in Region

PA301415 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1602 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Report on news conference held by President Daniel Ortega with Canadian newsmen accompanying Joseph Clark, Canadian secretary of state for external affairs, in Managua]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Dear listeners, you will now hear President Ortega answer, first of all, a question on the role Canada has been playing in Central America with regard to the situation in the region:

[Begin Recording] [Ortega] Canada has been working constructively. We must bear in mind that when the United States decreed the embargo it adopted that position to try to isolate Nicaragua from the world economic order, but the United States found its policy against Nicaragua blocked, let us say, because, among other things, the international community and Canada offered themselves as options to receive Nicaraguan products.

Politically, Canada's position has been very clear. It has favored a negotiated resolution of the Central American conflict.

[Reporter, in English with simultaneous Spanish translation] Mr Ortega, do you think that Canada should speak out more strongly against U.S. policy on Nicaragua?

[Ortega] I think that the question is not to be against the U.S. policy. (?Off hand), I would not say we are against the U.S. position but that the question is to call on the United States to respect the internal legal order, to respect the ruling of the International Court of Justice, to end the aggression against Nicaragua, and to back and to respect the Guatemala agreements. I think that, in this sense, Canada has pursued an active policy.

[Reporter, in English with simultaneous Spanish translation] Will you welcome Canadian peacekeeping forces here [words indistinct]?

[Ortega] We have been willing to establish security zones along our borders with Honduras and Costa Rica with participation of troops and forces from other countries, from other nations. We feel that Canada has relevant experience and that it could perfectly well make a contribution in this regard. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Nicaragua has serious economic problems and Canada is a rich country. What can Canada do in the area of international assistance, which Canada is so famous for, to assist Nicaragua in its present situation?

[Ortega] Canada has been rendering valuable cooperation to Nicaragua and is demonstrating a political will, but Nicaragua's economic situation is so serious that even adding up all of the international cooperation Nicaragua receives, it is actually not enough. [passage omitted]

I think the international community, which logically includes Canada, the EEC, the Latin American countries—above all such Latin American countries as Mexico, Brazil, Venezuela, and Argentina—countries from the socialist community, and Japan can have a greater impact if they help implement the Guatemala peace plan because this requires economic support. Without economic support it becomes very tense here, in political terms, to maintain the program of implementation of the Guatemala agreements. [passage omitted].

[Reporter] What would you specifically expect from Canada?

[Ortega] Well, I think the foreign minister's visit is important. He has had direct contact with our situation and he can adopt initiatives in line with the existing possibilities on the part of Canada.

[Reporter] Within this framework, in what sectors of the economy can we help?

[Ortega] Here, the agricultural-livestock sector is fundamental because this country has the infrastructure, or, better put, has natural resources. It has some infrastructure; it has men willing to work; and even in the midst of war we can defend Nicaragua's economy with some investments of our own. Canada has been contributing through the (Chiltepe) dairy project. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Do you have any special message today for the Canadian Government?

[Ortega] Well, a greeting to the Canadian people and our thanks to the Canadian Government for all of its work, for all the efforts it has been making, and for Foreign Minister Clark's presence in our country. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Spanish Deputy Prime Minister Ends Visit

LD300326 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] [Announcer] Spanish Deputy Prime Minister Alfonso Guerra has concluded his visit to Nicaragua. Special correspondent Juan Luis Diaz Prat reports from Managua:

[Diaz] Spanish Deputy Prime Minister Alfonso Guerra ended his official visit to Nicaragua (?convinced) that peace through dialogue is possible in Central America:

[Begin Guerra recording] We return to our country, to Spain, with a deeper and wider-reaching knowledge of Central American, Nicaraguan reality, with an even firmer spirit of always supporting the process of peace and dialogue in the region. I believe it ratifies the position the Spanish Government has maintained with regard to the Central American region. [end recording]

[Diaz] On Monday, Alfonso Guerra moves on to Costa Rica convinced, too, that the leaders of the Sandinist revolution have accepted the need to achieve a ceasefire, to pursue a regional political dialogue, and to move forward toward democracy. The Spanish deputy prime minister praised the measures adopted by the Nicaraguan Government in fulfillment of the Esquipulas agreement. He did not wish to pass judgment yet on what has been achieved in other countries, but he recognized the objective difficulties facing the presidents of Honduras and El Salvador. The Spanish deputy prime minister also was convinced of the urgent need for massive economic aid for Central America. The president of Nicaragua, Commander Daniel Ortega, called for economic support in the consolidation of peace and democracy in Central America.

[Begin Ortega recording] If this political effort is not complemented with considerable economic aid, we could [words indistinct] the Equipulas agreements [words indistinct] and we will have a crisis in the Central American region. [end recording]

Comments on Ortega Talks

LD272027 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] In Nicaragua, Deputy Prime Minister Alfonso Guerra reaffirmed his support for the Central American peace plan during his first meeting with the Sandinist leader, Daniel Ortega. Juan Luis Diaz Prat reports from Managua:

[Diaz] Spain's support for peace in Central America and the Madrid government's decision to expand its cooperation in the region were reaffirmed by Deputy Prime Minister Alfonso Guerra at the end of his first meeting with the president of Nicaragua, Commander Daniel Ortega. The meeting was held at the house where the Spanish official is staying, and it lasted 90 minutes. Most of this time was devoted to President Ortega's explanation of the measures adopted by his government as a result of the Esquipulas agreements.

[Begin Guerra recording] We had a pleasant, cordial conversation, in which we received in particular a direct report from the president on the situation, on how the Central American situation is seen by the Nicaraguan Government, and most particularly the peace and national reconciliation process in Nicaragua. As the Spanish Government—and also because of the relations we have with the other EEC countries—it is very important for us to receive direct reports, to find out exactly what is happening in the area, in the region, especially in Nicaragua. We have begun talks with the Nicaraguan authorities; we also have the opportunity to talk to other people, with the aim of receiving the maximum amount of information, and on the basis of our support for a peace plan for the region. [end recording]

Further Guerra Comments

LD282329 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] Spanish Deputy Prime Minister Alfonso Guerra said in Managua that he found President Daniel Ortega quite balanced, flexible, and with quite a well-rounded vision of problems. At a meeting with Spanish journalists, Guerra said Nicaragua must be urged to broaden its democratic framework on the basis of a mixed economy, genuine nonalignment, and respect for its national sovereignty.

In the opinion of the Spanish deputy prime minister, who yesterday had a meeting lasting 1 and 1/2 hours with President Daniel Ortega, the Sandinists are prepared to increase internal democratization by calling municipal elections and elections to the Central American parliament. Guerra added that he did not rule out a reform of the Constitution.

Yesterday, Guerra also met some of the parliamentary opposition, but the most radically anti-Sandinist parties were not included in the meeting.

Arce Comments on Radio Sandino Anniversary
PA280345 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish
1200 GMT 23 Nov 87

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce, vice coordinator of the FSLN National Directorate's Executive Commission, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of Radio Sandino on 22 November; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] First, I wish to say that for the National Directorate it is a moral duty to justly recognize a group of comrades who, during trying days of operating clandestinely, worked in what became the first media available to the Sandinist Front with which to wage its political struggle and to tear down the barrier of isolation, disinformation, and manipulation that we struggle against. We were subjected to this by all media in the country, including those that are currently proclaiming their right to full freedom of speech and other freedoms for all political forces. [passage omitted]

Now, our recognition is not an act of protocol; neither is it merely an attempt to fulfill a moral duty. Our recognition on the occasion of the 10th annivesary of Radio Sandino aims to bring to the forefront the exemplary women and men who, under extremely difficult and adverse conditions, were involved in a political-ideological struggle that complemented our military efforts. In so doing they played a determining role in the revolution's triumph.

We think that it is necessary to emulate that example today. It is disturbing to see that sometimes—in view of various difficulties and problems faced by the revolution, as explained in a report presented by Rodolfo [not further identified]—the attitude assumed by certain comrades is not the attitude of combat, struggle, unselfishness, sacrifice, and perseverance. It is an attitude characteristic of the weak, those who are constantly giving up and hiding their lack of belligerence, efficiency, and tenacity in the face of material shortages.

We have said that regardless of how bad living conditions for Nicaraguans have become, we are better off in 1987—as a result of the 6-year war of attrition imposed on us by the United States—than before, when we were fighting against the dictatorship. We have progressed in the military field.

Before the triumph we were about a dozen men when we started—the guerrillas in the mountains—and our best rifle was a sports model AR-15; it was the marvel among the other arms available to us then. That is how we started the war; we did not wait for someone to give us AK rifles, BTR's [armored personnel carriers], cannons, Mi-25 helicopters, or other weapons that we now have to defend ourselves against imperialist aggression.

Had we waited for someone to give us high-quality, modern arms, we would have never started the war, faced the dictatorship, and be celebrating a revolutionary triumph now.

As for our radio equipment, if we compare what we had for communications in the past and what we have now, there is no doubt that we are a hundred thousand times better off. We must recall that we made efforts to establish Radio Sandino because no radio station was willing to broadcast an FSLN communique; no newspaper was willing to publish our communiques.

Our military and political actions within our liberation struggle were either ignored [ocultadas] by the media, which was administered by the right wing—the same bourgeoisie that is now demanding freedom of speech—or distorted by making us appear at best as terrorists, murderers, and adventurers.

Radio Sandino is not alone in its political and ideological struggle. In addition to Radio Sandino we have a newspaper—*Barricada*—which has the largest circulation in the country. *Barricada* prints 100,000 copies every day, and this is unequalled by any other newspaper. Anyway, the people have the power because this is a revolutionary government and the state-owned news media, meaning the television and radio, have revolutionary guidelines. Consequently, the people support Radio Sandino and *Barricada*, the FSLN's media, in the political and ideological struggle against those who still want to sow opposition and unrest among our people. There are other media—for example *El Nuevo Diario*, which is operated by a worker's cooperative—that are also revolutionary media due to their very essence. We will not disregard or ignore our current problems; we cannot argue that there should be no cars, mobile units, and emergency generators simply because there were none when we operated clandestinely. However, we cannot accept a poorly done job or a negative attitude toward our political-ideological struggle simply because a car is unavailable or because this or that equipment is not fully operational. [passage omitted]

You must bear in mind that others began to work under much more adverse conditions, without SNOTS [National Labor and Wage Organization System], salaries and bonuses. We should strengthen our current condition with our historical ideals, because this is the revolution's main source of moral and political strength. This is important to us, above all following the opening of what we call the Esquipulas crossroads. We have been

able to implement our plan for a revolutionary democracy, and we have been able to abolish a series of restrictions as a result of this. Those restrictions were even affecting our enemies, the right-wing sectors of the country. We all now have a larger political opening and greater capabilities to wage a political-ideological struggle.

Our enemies have again begun to publish their newspaper, open their radio stations, and they will continue to do so. They have prepared other newspapers and this, logically, forces us to avail ourselves of the same freedom we have gained for everyone and to step up our political-ideological struggle. It means that those who work in the communications sector, particularly Radio Sandino's team, must bear in mind that our adversaries have historically manipulated and distorted the truth, so their best weapon is the distortion of information and the creation of confusion—because their main goal is to sow uncertainty and insecurity among our people in order to demoralize them. How are we going to counter the right-wing sector's efforts when they can operate freely and with full guarantees in our country? We will fight them with our main weapon: the revolutionary truth. [passage omitted]

I believe that if everyone exerts himself—meaning men and women working here and the other Sandinists struggling in different trenches—we will more quickly attain progress and win the political-ideological struggle. We are working on this because we do not ignore the radio stations' problems or the problems that loom ahead. Shortly after Esquipulas II was signed the U.S. Congress shamelessly approved $250,000 for the right-wing sectors' media in Nicaragua. We know that they want to approve $10 million for 1988 and $12 million for 1989 to finance the right-wing sectors here. This is in addition to the $270 million for the contras. Consequently, we have to find the means for modernizing and strengthening our news media. We have been discussing this with the Sandinist comrades, the FSLN National Directorate brothers in charge of the government. We have even discused the possibility of getting credits, etc., because we have to seek the means for improving the state-owned news media. Practically no investments have been made until now in the news media's sector. We must also support the efforts exerted by *El Nuevo Diario*'s owners to modernize their equipment. We have contacted friendly parties and used our own resources to improve our radio station and newspaper. [passage omitted]

We are looking for new transmitters, and we also have to look for new mobile units, of course. However, we will not solve the problem with more cars, mobile units, or transmission power. Remember that the basic thing in a war are men and not weapons; the important thing is the quality of those men. A good political activist with a Magnavox can be more effective than a bad political activitist with a 100-kilowatt radio station. Therefore, we must solve all problems concerning equipment maintenance; prevent car accidents—because we do not manufacture cars; no one gives them to us for free; we have to pay for them in dollars—work with discipline; learn not only to rely on material things; etc. These elements must complement the FSLN's efforts and sacrifices to provide the radio station with the necessary resources. That is why we have implemented the incentive of seeking more financing, because the radio station must seek financing for at least 50 percent of its needs; the rest is paid for by the activists' donations. We must strive for the station to become financially self-sufficient, and not only to make a profit. [passage omitted]

Consequently, this 10th anniversary should be remembered because we have entered a new phase. We will try to get more resources for the radio station, so that you do not have to work as the founders did. You should not have to face the same problems Chuno [Jesus Miguel Blandon] and his team had to face when he was in charge of the radio station. However, our efforts and sacrifices must be compensated by the team's ideological, labor, and revolutionary policies. We reminded you of the example of those who began from scratch in order to motivate you, because they struggled in the political-ideological sectors for our people's freedom.

Therefore, we trust that the experience acquired during the last 10 years will be taken into consideration and analyzed, and your future actions will reaffirm that no one surrenders in Nicaragua and that Radio Sandino is still one of our people's foremost trenches from which to defeat any aggressor. Thank you.

Official on Staple Products Shortages

PA271850 [Editorial Report] Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish at 1952 GMT on 23 November carries a report on a statement by Santos Sandoval, marketing director for the National Enterprise for Staple Foods, ENABAS, in Managua regarding the shortage of some staple products. Citing Sandoval, the station announcer says the rice shortage in ENABAS posts is caused by a low inventory of this grain, adding that "it has been difficult to collect this product because it grows mostly in war zones," and that "private rice producers are selling their product according to the best offer and are refusing to sell it to ENABAS." He noted that "the problem might be resolved during the 1st week of December, with a Soviet donation of 5,000 quintals."

The station announcer then says that according to Sandoval, "the shortage of sugar has been caused by the lack of spare parts in some sugar refineries," but that "the situation will be normalized in December."

The station announcer adds that Sandoval said that "the high price of beans is due to a liberal price policy implemented a few months ago."

The report says that Sandoval also referred to problems with cooking oil, detergents, and to a possible distribution of powdered milk by ENABAS.

Panama

Delvalle on Cabinet, Acapulco Trip, U.S. Ties

PA301957 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 30 Nov 87 p 1

[Unattributed article: "The President Believes Cabinet Reorganization Needed"]

[Text] The president has said that "there is no date, there is no rush" for a cabinet change, but he does believe that a "reorganization" of the government members is necessary.

President Eric Arturo Delvalle stated this yesterday on his arrival from Acapulco, where he and seven other Latin American presidents discussed the continent's current situation. The economic problems, specifically the debt, were the basic topic of the meeting.

President Delvalle, who was welcomed by two ministers—Education Minister Manuel Solis Palma and Labor Minister Jorge Federico Lee—said he understands the nationalistic fervor of the legislators who are demanding the removal of the Southern Command from Panama, but he noted that if the Panamanians demand that the United States respect the treaties we have to be respectful and comply with the treaties to the letter and, therefore, we must wait until the opportune moment, that is, the year 2000, so that the United States will leave the national territory as has been agreed upon.

President Delvalle said that the presidents who attended the meeting expressed their solidarity in view of the economic and political aggression that the United States has unleased against Panama.

He explained that each president was given details of the economic pressures the U.S. Senate is exerting on Panama.

Asked about the Southern Command aggression in Central America, President Delvalle said: "I am personally not aware that it (the Southern Command) is being used for aggression in Central America. If this were so we would demand that the United States comply with the treaty."

Regarding the crisis and the deterioration of the relations between Panama and the United States, the president said that these will improve "the moment the United States understands that to get along well with Panama it will have to be more respectful and stop thinking that we are a colony"..."we are partners in the canal."

According to President Delvalle, during the meeting a new approach was found regarding the foreign debt and the participants agreed on actions that will lead to development programs. On his trip to Acapulco, Mexico, the president was accompanied by Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias, Commerce and Industries Minister Bernardo Cardenas, and Ricaurte Vasquez, planning and economic policy minister.

A Panamanian Air Force plane piloted by Major Augusto Villalaz C. and Major Juan M. Luria took the president and his party to Mexico and then returned them to Panama.

'Concern' for Government Public Sector Strike

PA010313 Panama City Television Service in Spanish 0233 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Statement read by Jose Hernandez, press and information secretary of the Presidency—live]

[Text] The national government expresses its concern over the persistent attitude of organized groups of public servants who insist on collectively suspending work in various government offices to the detriment of the community and with no legal basis.

Everyone knows that our country is experiencing extremely difficult situations that force the government to be most responsible and strict in handling public finances. Therefore, it cannot consider demands that are not obviously urgent and within the purview of the state's financial limits.

In view of the above, and in order to not affect public servants' income, we urge them to reflect very seriously, because their failure to comply with their duties as officials would make them subject to administrative penalties as prescribed by law.

PRD Official on Eastern Bloc Aid Willingness

PA301350 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Text] Ramiro Vasquez Chambonnet, under secretary general of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD, today said that in view of the economic blockade by the U.S. Senate, the socialist countries have shown their solidarity and determination to offer that type of assistance to our country. Likewise, it was determined there is a possibility of establishing diplomatic relations with those countries. Vasquez Chambonnet emphasized the following:

[Begin recording] During the conversations I held with both the Soviet party as well as the parties from the remainder of the socialist countries I found there was a very definite and clear show of solidarity as well as an affirmation of total willingness to offer any type of assistance—economic, political, and even diplomatic—should the United States increase its pressures and aggressions against our Panamanian Government and people. [end recording]

Argentina

Caputo on Group of 8 Summit, Declaration

PY280046 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1338 GMT 27 Nov 87

[By special correspondent Ricardo Fernandez Gaia]

[Excerpts] Acapulco, Mexico, 27 Nov (DYN)—The Argentine delegation headed by President Raul Alfonsin today begins its participation in the "summit" of the eight Latin American presidents in an atmosphere that cannot be described as full of expectations for concrete or "appropriate, timely" results. [passage omitted]

During the trip from Buenos Aires to Acapulco, Argentine delegation sources did not hide the fact that Latin American "brotherhood" is still more rhetoric than reality, and that the bond of the historical and cultural values is too weak to bind the eight countries together in the face of the very serious problems presently confronting each of them.

Foreign Minister Dante Caputo made reference to this fact when talking about the foreign debt. He said the lack of agreement with regard to forming something like a "common front" is due to the fact that each time we discuss the issue, the different countries are "in different negotiating situations." However, he expressed hope for a joint position because "the common denominator is becoming increasingly more important."

Caputo added that "countries are more conscious of the crisis and of the limitations of the methods used in past years."

Caputo made short statements to the press during the trip to Acapulco. He cautiously said the summit was "an important beginning" for regional integration, and the Argentine Government "hopes it will become a permanent mechanism."

Last night a "ministerial plenum" met to discuss common positions on the issues. The heads of the foreign and economic ministries of the eight countries met to discuss their proposals and make them more compatible.

Each country brought its own proposals to the summit. On 30 November, their agreements will be set forth in a document entitled "Declaration of the Eight Latin American Presidents." The declaration will also confirm the holding of a second "summit" in Uruguay in November or December 1988. Just the fact that the eight presidents will meet again was called "highly significant" because it institutionalizes the mechanism for regional political agreement at the presidential level.

Caputo said this document will be divided in two parts: "The first will be a general declaration of principles on the issues, and the second will list concrete proposals for action to promote regional integration. These proposals will be far from a concrete blueprint for a common market."

An official report distributed on board the presidential plane states that the summit "is the result of historical and political evolution" and that "the concept of Latin American integration did not come about abruptly in response to critical circumstantial situations." This was an obvious allusion to the problem of the foreign debt.

The official report adds that the summit "is proof that by their own initiative Latin American countries are able to form a consolidated community, sharing interests and projects, and that the problems they confront can be analyzed through a permanent mechanism of political conciliation."

One of the sources in the plane said: "We should not forget that each of our countries is in a different stage of development and has a different external and internal political situation; they do not always have similar geopolitical and economic interests."

The great common problem of the foreign debt will then be at the center of the deliberations, while the Central American problem, interwoven in the complex East-West and North-South game, will probably take a back seat.

The topic of peace in Central America will not be faced "directly" by the eight presidents and their ministers, but will be made to coincide with another prominent topic on the agenda: integration. The source said "the topic of peace in Central America is necessarily and directly linked with the development of the different countries, because without a change in the regional economic prospects there will be no real possibility of achieving peace."

The source then added, in low voice: "However, there are very great interests involved at the highest levels of international policy. We are not ready to take extreme positions because each one of the eight countries has very serious problems limiting its field of action and maneuvering room."

This is shown by the scope and extent of previous negotiations—four meetings of foreign ministers, plus negotiations during the last UN General Assembly—to extract the items of common interest from the multiple and sharp differences that exist among Latin American democracies. This is something that could lead to a "superficial treatment" of the selected items.

The Argentine sources dismissed the possibility of a superficial treatment of issues, and stressed that for the first time in history a meeting like this is being convened

behind the back of the United States, "not in rebellion, but as a show of independence." The sources added that besides the declaration on the foreign debt—which will include the Argentine idea of "historical interests"—and general statements on integration, there are other items that are crucial for the region, such as the growing technology gap with the industrialized countries.

UCR Convention Supports Alfonsin Government

PY301711 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 30 Nov 87 p 9

[Text] (NA-DYN)—The Radical (UCR) National Convention yesterday decided to step up its "active" support for the government of President Raul Alfonsin and released a statement referring to economic growth "as a process of transformation."

The convention also suspended articles 36 and 38 of the party charter and passed on some 100 projects to special committees for their further study.

Delegate Raul Alconada Sempe presented a project stating "solidarity with the government for the achievement of further successes and establishment of wider objectives."

Only 96 out of 300 delegates were present at the close of deliberations.

The new convention executive council was finally integrated by former Health Minister Conrado Storani (Cordoba) as president, former National Port Administrator Pedro Casado Bianco (Federal Capital) as first vice-president, Raul Stradella (Santa Fe) as second vice-president, and secretaries Alberto Benis (Radical Youth), Alberto Day (Mendoza), Marcelo Marco (Buenos Aires), Mabel Gomez de Marelli (Misiones), Melchor Posse (Buenos Aires), Humberto Rivas Russo (Catamarca), Hector Salom (Chaco), Humberto Sigal (Chubut) and Aldo Suarez (Tucuman).

Aticles 36 and 38 of the party charter were suspended until December 10, 1989. The articles refer to the incompatibility of simultaneously holding party and government posts, and the need to hold more than two-thirds of the total vote in party primaries and congresses to be re-elected to party posts.

The decision allowed the return of 33 convention members whose presence was objected by other delegates in view of the fact that they held government posts. Defense Minister and Secretary Horacio Juanarena and Raul Alconada Sempe, together with federal capital delegates Pedro Trucco, Marcelo da Corte, Mario Brodersohn and Ricardo Mazzorin were included in the list.

In his speech before the party leadership, Storani said the party would close ranks with the government "in order to support it, enrich it and if necessary, to correct it," warning "non-Radical government authorities" that "nobody spends 20, 30 or 40 years in the UCR for nothing."

Deliberations were periodically interrupted by a group of Radical Youth members belonging to the National Coordinating Board (JCN) faction, who chanted anti-Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille slogans and competed with the Renewal and Change Movement members sponsored by Buenos Aires leader Leopoldo Moreau for a space in the upper sectors of the Nunez theater where the convention was held.

Congress Elects Leaders, Swears In Deputies

PY290152 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 28 Nov 87 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN)—The Lower House of Congress yesterday elected incumbent Speaker Juan Carlos Pugliese (Radical- Buenos Aires) for the fifth consecutive year while former Lomas de Zamora Mayor Eduardo Duhalde (Justicialist-Buenos Aires) was elected first vice-president and Alvaro Alsogaray (Democratic Centre Union-capital) second vice-president.

The new deputies elected last September 6 were sworn in by Interim Speaker Oscar Alende (Intransigent-Buenos Aires) before the new Lower House authorities were elected. Outgoing Rio Negro governor Osvaldo Alvarez Guerrero (Radical) and Federal Party leader Francisco Manrique (Capital) were the only incoming deputies to miss the ceremony.

Only White Flag deputy Exequiel Avila Gallo (Tucuman) failed to vote for Pugliese and Duhalde. The new deputy later revealed that his abstention vote was "ordered by party authorities." The White Flag party is headed by former Tucuman de facto Governor Antonio Bussi.

Avila Gallo was loudly booed during the swearing-in ceremony while Socialist deputy Guillermo Estevez Boero (Santa Fe) was the most applauded incoming deputy.

Alsogaray's election was supported by the Radicals and 17 deputies belonging to the right-of-centre parties, and opposed by the Peronists, Intransigents, Christian Democrats, the Movement for Integration and Development and other provincial parties, who backed deputy Osvaldo Pellin (Neuquen Popular Movement) for the second vice-presidency.

Navy To Discuss Possible Promotion Decision

PY301722 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 30 Nov 87 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN)—The Navy command will meet today to study the delicate situation arising from President Raul Alfonsin's alleged decision to promote Navy Lieutenant Alfredo Astiz to captain and immediately ask for his retirement.

The promotion, which was blocked by pending human rights trials against the controversial military officer, does not need the Senate's approval and is considered an automatic administrative act.

According to government sources, the president would have agreed to Astiz' promotion, but as commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, had determined that the military officer be immediately offered retirement.

The road to Astiz' promotion was cleared when the due obedience law allowed all military officers who allegedly acted under orders during the dirty war against leftwing subversion to be freed from prosecution.

Astiz was accused of kinapping and murdering Swedish-Argentine teenager Dagmar Hagelin and of infiltrating meetings of friends and relatives of misisng people in order to pave the road for a massive abduction of several human rights activists, including two French nuns and the founder of the Mothers of Plaza de Mayo, Azucena Villaflor.

Astiz' colleagues accused high-ranking officers of using Astiz as a "scapegoat" and named some 30 military officers who were promoted despite having participated in the dirty war.

Jewish Community, Supporters Demonstrate

PY272101 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Nov (NA)—Some 15,000 people of the Jewish community and other sectors of society have met to reject the "anti-Semitic sectors that are threatening to expand dangerously" in the country, and to announce that the government has sent an antidiscrimination law to Congress in an attempt to resolve the problem.

The crowd met at Houssay Square in Buenos Aires, where anti-Nazi chants were heard. David Goldberg, president of the Argentine Israeli Associations (DAIA) delegation, delivered a speech.

Marta Oyhanarte Sivak, Jorge and Horacio Sivak, and some of Benjamin Neuman's relatives, who were representing victims of kidnapping, attended the demonstration and were applauded by the crowd.

Buenos Aires Governor-elect Antonio Cafiero; Peronist Deputies Carlos Grosso, Jose Manzano, and Carlos Ruckauf; and Radical Deputy Marcelo Strubin, along with Peronist Senators Edison Otero, Fernando de La Rua, and Adolfo Gass, also attended the demonstration.

A delegation of founding members of the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo also attended the demonstration.

David Goldberg, whose speech was interrupted by applause, said: "We must say clearly that in Argentine society there are anti-Semitic sectors that are threatening to expand dangerously, an anti-Semitism that is against essential Argentine values, and we are concerned about it."

He added: "We are concerned at how easy it is [words indistinct]."

Goldberg said that "one of the effects of the economic crisis is the stimulation of irrationality. Therefore," he said, "it is possible that we Argentines will start looking for scapegoats, after incredulously watching our standard of living go down, believing this will help us overcome the crisis."

Referring to a public table that rightist groups have set up at the corner of Florida and Bartolome Mitre, in downtown Buenos Aires, Goldberg said "there is an anti-Semitic propaganda center on that corner. Indignant Jewish and non-Jewish passers-by, who daily must pass that corner, are forced to see a display of Nazi ideology and symbols that are shamelessly exalted before an unprotected society."

Goldberg added: "Obviously we do not have the legal tools to put an end to this and other sources of racial hatred disseminated throughout the city." He went on to say that "through use of a skillful, coordinated strategy in accordance with a preestablished 'timetable', Schwammberger was arrested, an arrest that astonished the world."

He said: "It is never too late to try a criminal for his crimes." He added that this was done "to deny that something was occurring in the country" and "to prevent any suspicion that the arrest of the Nazi criminal coincided with the investigation of the murders of Neuman and Sivak, who were victims of the racial hooliganism that has been going on for too long in the country, and which the people took too long to notice."

Briefs

Agreement Signed With Peru

Argentina and Peru have signed a cultural and educational agreement. Among other points, the agreement provides for the exchange of educational information; scholarships, allowances, and programs for Argentine and Peruvian students; the exchange of archaeological

and anthropological information; the sponsoring of art exhibits; and the signing of agreements to jointly produce television and theatre programs, as well as agreements related to sports. [Excerpt] *[Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Nov 87 p 7 PY]*

Bolivia

Joint Administrative Control System Created

PY301507 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 7 Nov 87 p 1

[Text] The government has approved by means of a decree the creation of a joint financial administration and government control system, with the objective of reorganizing the state and decentralized companies.

President Victor Paz Estenssoro and the cabinet yesterday approved this decree, which establishes the creation of an organization that will seek the financial reorganization of the state companies.

The information minister said the decree sets the guidelines and responsibilities of public sector administration to prevent the traditional impunity of government officials and hold them responsible for their actions.

The decree seeks to reduce the opportunities for corruption and to increase the chances of discovering such cases and controlling them.

It will also act as a mechanism of control, formation, and evaluation that will allow more efficient and effective administration of government funds.

"The absence of such a control system has prevented rational management of public funds and contributed to inefficiency, corruption, and impunity," the information minister stated.

According to the decree, this joint control system will be created with economic aid from AID and the World Bank.

The international organization will contribute $3 million, while the World Bank will lend $7.4 million on favorable terms. In turn, the Bolivian Government will contribute $320,000.

In this manner, the government will strengthen the state companies, which have not been able to control their expenses, according to the minister.

The government wants the expenses kept within budget limits to avoid jeopardizing the stability of the state companies.

All expenses will be controlled through this system, with the participation of the Finance Ministry and the National Comptrollers Office.

Finance Minister Juan Cariaga told the media this new decree represents "a great effort by the government to improve public administration with seriousness, discipline, and, most of all, responsibility," to reduce cases of corruption.

Communique Issued on Drug-Trafficking 'War'

PY281457 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Nov 87

["Text" of communique issued by the Bolivian Foreign Ministry—date not given]

[Text] In keeping with instructions issued by Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro, the government has been carrying out an all-out war against nefarious drug-trafficking activities. This is being done through coordinated actions within the framework of an overall plan which this year has yielded results surpassing all expectations, particularly with regard to the replacement of coca farming.

The international community has recognized and praised the efforts Bolivia has been making in this regard, despite the difficult economic situation it is confronting, through the National Antidrug Commission, which has studied and implemented a series of measures seeking to eradicate drug consumption and to strengthen moral standards.

In view of this, the government denies FRG reports that the present economic power of the drug traffickers would even allow them to have access to political power and to appoint a president.

Information Minister Comments

PY300103 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 10 Nov 87 p 1

[Text] The Bolivian information minister has stated that the Bolivian Armed Forces are actively participating in the struggle against drug trafficking, in accordance with established government guidelines.

The minister stated that the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force are carrying out their specific tasks, following government instructions.

Jorge Alderete, Interior Ministry social defence under secretary, recently said that the Armed Forces have been unwilling to get involved in the struggle against drug trafficking.

The Bolivian president reorganized the antinarcotics agencies and established special forces in the struggle against drug trafficking. He also decided that the Armed Forces must participate in these new agencies.

For this purpose, the president created a special command, in which the Armed Forces have representatives. Despite the government's instructions, Alderete called upon the Armed Forces for more effective action.

The information minister said that the Armed Forces are actively participating in the struggle against drug trafficking. He added that military equipment is being used in this struggle.

He stated that the Army is cooperating with qualified personnel, while the Navy is providing speedboats and the Air Force is using helicopters in all antidrug operations.

The minister went on to say that the government has a definitive position regarding unemployment. This position will not be modified because the country cannot make inflationary expenditures.

He stated that the executive branch is willing to create new jobs, according to established guidelines, in order to reactivate the productive sector.

The minister said that the state has no funds to pay the unemployment benefits unemployed mining workers are demanding.

Factory Workers Declare 'State of Emergency'

PY301345 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] The General Confederation of Bolivian Factory Workers [CGTFB] has decided to declare itself in a state of emergency and general mobilization until the executive branch favorably resolves the factory workers' conflicts.

CGTFB leader Felipe Tapia told the media his union asked the government to modify the salary scale, prohibit hiring without a binding contract, respect their social gains, and prevent the closing of factories.

He said that, unfortunately, the government has not paid attention to these demands, and more than 20,000 workers will be fired as a result of the closing of several factories in the country.

The government is unable to control the smuggling of foreign goods into the country, he said, adding that foreign goods are saturating local markets and destroying national industries.

Brazil

Further Sarney Remarks on Group of 8 Summit

PY301454 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Talking with journalists in Mexico, President Sarney has said there is no Latin American unity without Cuba's participation. According to the president, there is no reason why Cuba should remain outside the Latin American integration process.

President Fidel Castro sent a message supporting the Group of Eight, which met in Acapulco. In his message he expressed satisfaction with the summit, as well as the hope that the Group of Eight will become a broader forum, with the participation of all the countries of the continent.

Returns From Acapulco

PY301612 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1500 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] President Sarney has returned to Brazil after a 3-day stay in Mexico. Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes went to the Brasilia Air Base to welcome President Sarney. Cabinet ministers and politicians were also at the air base to greet the president.

The Brazilian president made no comments at the air base where his return trip to Brazil ended, after 3 days in which he and seven other Latin American presidents discussed the foreign debts of their nations in Acapulco, Mexico.

Debt Negotiation Team To Leave for New York

PY301438 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Central Bank President Fernando Milliet will travel to New York today, heading the Brazilian delegation that will resume foreign debt negotiations. Milliet has said he will only make some contacts, and that negotiations will be conducted by Finance Ministry special adviser Fernao Bracher and Central Bank Director Antonio de Padua Seixa.

Brazil is carrying the proposal that has been made public regarding the first update of the macroeconomic plan. This proposal refers to the conversion of part of the debt into negotiable bonds.

Chief Negotiator Cited

PY010154 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Nov 87 p 47

[By special correspondent Helival Rios]

[Text] Acapulco, Mexico—Fernao Bracher, former Central Bank president and main Brazilian spokesman at the foreign debt negotiations, has said that Brazil should be

able to reach a multiyear agreement with private creditors this year. Bracher looked quite reassured about the future of the negotiations during the interview he held with *O Estado de Sao Paulo* and *Jornal da Tarde* at the hotel where the Brazilian delegation is staying in Acapulco; that is, the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Bracher said that the negotiations were not easy: "That is why we stay calm, alert, and prepared for long sessions." According to Bracher, Brazil has already succeeded in obtaining the most difficult concessions. This deals with the introduction in the negotiations of such nonconventional proposals as the conversion of the debt into government bonds and securities and other proposals within the same context. "We also made considerable progress in the conventional areas of the negotiations. One example is the separation of the IMF agreements from the agreements with the creditor's committee. We were able to convince them that the two things had to be separated. It was not easy because creditors had difficulties covering the absence of the IMF. They felt rather lost without the IMF mechanism evaluating things. We try to come up with names of well-known economists when discussing concepts with them. Recently we talked about the theories of an economist working for the Bank of Montreal and the Chase Manhattan Bank, but we had to stop because they wanted to discuss our proposals with him. That is why negotiations move so slowly."

Bracher thinks the negotiations are proceeding well. At any rate, that is the attitude he will take to New York this weekend when he will engage in yet another round of negotiations with creditors.

Fernao Bracher does not agree with some observers who maintain that bankers do not want to reach a final agreement with Brazil before the presidential elections here: "If my opinion is worth anything in my capacity as negotiator, I think there is a very strong possibility of reaching a final agreement before the end of this year."

Finance Minister Bresser Pereira said there has been important progress at the negotiations and that everything is progressing well. However, he said it is still too early to talk about the details or to make predictions. He nevertheless said he trusts that a multiyear agreement will be signed soon, and added: It will be worse for the banks if we do not reach an agreement because we have not lifted the moratorium.

New Fiscal Package Not To Increase Revenues

PY010143 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Nov 87 p 1

[Text] The fiscal package the government is preparing will be released in the first half of December and will affect millions of taxpayers. The package, however, will not produce a large increase in revenues. The following are the main items of the package:

—for those on a salary, taxes and refunds (but not when discounted at the source) will again be adjusted according to inflation. The 10 levels of the progressive income tax schedule will be reduced to 4. Taxes will be reduced for those who earn less;

—income derived from rental property of less than 37,000 cruzados will be tax exempt;

—taxpayers will have to update the value of their properties so that they pay taxes according to the IPL (Tax on Net Assets);

—those whose income is derived from agriculture will pay more income tax; fiscal incentives will be reduced.

Briefs

World Bank Approves Loan

The World Bank yesterday approved a $132 million loan to Brazil. The funds will be used to help families displaced by the construction of the Itaparica reservoir in Bahia State. [Summary] *[Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Nov 87 p A-19 PY]*

Chile

Foreign Minister Meets With FRG Politician

LD262217 Hamburg DPA in German 1500 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Santiago de Chile (DPA)—Chilean Foreign Minister Ricardo Garcia had a meeting today with CDU [Christian Democratic Union] General Secretary Heiner Geissler, who, following his talks earlier with the opposition, strongly criticized the military regime's human rights policy. Geissler had also told German journalists that a victory by President General Augusto Pinochet in the referendum expected next year would, "in the short or long run," lead to conditions resembling civil war in the country.

Prior to the meeting with Garcia, the senior CDU politician said that he did not want to name the topics for discussion or comment on them afterward. The independent daily newspaper *La Epoca* noted that in contacts with government members Geissler wanted to make inquiries about the fate of Karin Eitel (26), of German origin, who was arrested a month ago for alleged contacts with the kidnappers of an officer, and who has been held incommunicado since then. Geissler said he suspected that Mrs Eitel had been, at the least, mistreated in prison. Following the exchange of views with the foreign minister, Geissler was due to visit a poor area. Today, the distribution of food and clothing worth several million dollars began in 13 of these slum areas.

This has been demanded by the kidnappers belonging to the communist Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) as a condition for the obviously imminent release of the lieutenant colonel.

Human rights policy was also at the center of Geissler's talk with the non-ecclesiastical Chilean human rights commission. Last night the CDU general secretary told German journalists that nothing has changed in the human rights situation in Chile and that the "machinery of oppression" is in full swing. The Chilean military regime today shows itself to be less able to compromise than during his last visit to Chile a year ago.

FRG Envoy Leaves for Consultation on Ties

PY301959 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] FRG Ambassador to Chile Horst Kullak-Ublick yesterday departed for the FRG to brief the FRG Foreign Ministry on the Dignidad colony issue and the level of bilateral ties.

This information was supplied today by FRG Embassy sources, who stated that the ambassador would remain for 2 weeks in Bonn and that he will brief FRG Government officials on the information that he personally obtained during a visit he made to the Dignidad settlement, located in the 7th Region of Chile.

Uruguay

Soviet Solidarity Committee Group Arrives

PY292205 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2255 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] Montevideo, 28 Nov (EFE)—An official Soviet delegation is touring Latin America in order to improve Soviet political, economic, and cultural relations with Latin American countries.

Alcksandr Kharlamov and Petr Nikolayev, members of the "Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Latin American Peoples," have stopped over in Montevideo on their way from Brazil to other countries of the region.

Kharlamov and Nikolayev said that the committee's task is to "express support for the struggle" of Latin American peoples and "for democracy, national sovereignty, and the fight against imperialist oppression."

The committee also wants to "help consolidate" Soviet friendship and cooperation with Latin American and Caribbean countries by providing information on the Soviet way of life, its domestic and foreign policy, and its initiatives against the arms race.

The Soviet delegation, which has met with politicians, news media directors, and other officials in Montevideo, has also addressed the threat of nuclear war and the need to preserve world peace.

Venezuela

Student Demonstrations Leave Two Dead

PA300204 Paris AFP in Spanish 0514 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] Barquisimeto, Venezuela, 27 Nov (AFP)—A police chief acknowledged that today a policeman killed a student in this city, 300 km southeast of Caracas, during a demonstration over the death of another student the day before in the Andean city of Merida.

Luis Perez Bello, police commander for Lara State (whose capital is Barquisimeto), said the policeman who shot student Manuel Vera Moreno, 22, in the chest has been turned over to the Judicial Technical Police (PTJ-detective corps).

Meanwhile, Merida, 500 km southeast of Caracas, has been occupied by the Army since Thursday because of violent protests by university students following the burial of student Humberto Lopez, who died after being arrested by a police patrol.

Acting President Jose Angel Ciliberto (President Jaime Lusinchi is attending the Group of Eight summit in Acapulco) reiterated that Lopez' death was not due to police excesses but to a cocaine overdose.

The official story was rejected by the students and by the Merida student's family, however. One of his brothers, Jesus Lopez, said that the deceased was not a drug addict and that, at any rate, the autopsy findings should have been disclosed more quickly, and not after "a certain period of time."

This student's death sparked a strong wave of student protests, the third this year, forcing the Army to occupy Merida. In fact, the soldiers were harassed today by students, who rapidly scattered when the soldiers cocked their weapons.

In Barquisimeto, however, the protests took a dramatic turn with Perez Bello's death, and only very heavy rain ended the demonstration.

There were, in addition, violent demonstrations in Caracas, which were also stopped by the rain and a strong police cordon around the Central University of Venezuela (UCV).

Suriname

Military Congratulates, Meets With Front

FL302151 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Although the official outcome of the elections isn't yet known, the Front for Democracy and Development will probably have 40 seats in the 61-member National Assembly. The Pendawa Lima will get five

to six seats, while it looks like the PALU [Progressive Workers' and Farm Laborers' Union] has gained four seats. The seats for the latter will [word indistinct] in the problem areas, Marowijne, Brokopondo, and Sipaliwini. According to provisional results, the National Democratic Party will have two to three seats in the assembly.

Chairman (Lowder Boxstein), of the independent elections council, expects that the official results will be known by Wednesday. He said the administrative work was more complex than expected, whence the reasons for the late results.

Commander Desi Bouterse and the complete military top have congratulated the leaders of the Front personally for their elective victory. The Front also received best wishes from Jules Wijdenbosch, from the National Democratic Party [NDP], and other NDP officials. After this, a 45-minute meeting took place behind closed doors in which the military leaders took part with the Front leaders, Arron, Lachmon, and Soemita, and NDP Chairman Wijdenbosch. Nothing was made known about the content of their discussions, but a spokesman for the Front, Mr (Ramsaryou) told the press afterward that the Front leaders have appreciated the congratulations of the military leaders and look upon their meeting as their contribution to stability, tranquility, and national unity.